

The Dark Triad and mating strategy

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The Dark Triad (narcissism, psychopathy, machiavellianism) was shown to be related to preference for short-term relationships and “game playing” and “cerebral” love styles (e.g., Campbell, Foster, 2002; Li, Kenrick, 2006; Jonason et al., 2009, 2010). The aims of our study was to examine (1) the relation between the Dark Triad, four mating strategies and attitudes towards ideal partner; (2) gender differences in the relation of the Dark Triad and adoption of particular love style; (3) mediating role of personality traits in this relation. The sample consisted of 150 students, males and females. Methods included self-report questionnaires. The results supported association between the Dark triad and two mating strategies – “game playing” (positive) and “romantic” (negative). There is no reliable evidence for sex differences. Mediating role of personality was not supported.

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The development of the addiction-prone personality traits in biological and adoptive families

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This project investigated the predictors of the youth's Addiction-Prone Personality (APP) scores in biological ($N = 328$) and adoptive ($N = 77$) families. The development of youth's APP traits was examined from three angles: (1) patterns in biological and adoptive families, (2) youth's vs. parent's perceptions of familial environment, and (3) different points in the life span. The youth's APP scores were found to be significantly predicted by the Familial Care Factor (maternal and paternal care, family cohesion, and family adaptability) in both biological and adoptive families. Parent APP scores and gender consistently showed significant direct influences on youth's APP scores in biological families. The Familial Care Factor was found to be the most significant predictor of youth's APP scores in adoptive families even when youth became older. These results are consistent in showing that the social environment plays an important role in the development of the Addiction-Prone Personality traits.

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The effect of intensity and clarity of negative emotion on attentional bias to smoking-related cues in smoking relapsers

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This study aims to examine if intensity and clarity of negative emotion influence attentional bias to smoking-related cues in smoking relapsers. Smoking relapsers will be divided into two groups: emotionally overwhelmed (EO) group having intense but less clear emotion and emotionally non-overwhelmed (ENO) group having less intense but clearer emotion. Eye movements to smoking-related cues and control cues will be recorded after viewing films eliciting either negative or neutral emotion. The EO group would show significantly greater maintenance of attention to smoking-related cues than the ENO group, after viewing the film eliciting negative emotion, but not after viewing the film eliciting neutral emotion. If the expected findings are confirmed, it will suggest that negative emotion is likely to influence incentive values of smoking-related cues for smokers having intense but less clear emotion. Thus, EO smokers

may be more vulnerable to smoking relapse when exposed to negative emotion, than ENO smokers.

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The effect of negative emotions on response inhibition in smoking relapsers

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The present study aimed to examine whether negative emotions have an effect on response inhibition in smoking relapsers compared to smoking abstainers. Participants were 71 young adults (42 smoking relapsers and 29 abstainers). In order to induce emotions, participants were instructed to view negative or neutral pictures of the International Affective Pictures System (IAPS). They performed a Go/No-Go task, consisting of smoking pictures (No-Go stimuli) and nonsmoking pictures (Go stimuli), to assess response inhibition toward smoking pictures before and after inducing emotions. As a result of Go/No-Go task, relapsers showed significantly fast error reaction times to smoking pictures than did abstainers, regardless of any emotion induction. However, both groups did not show significant differences in commission error to smoking pictures. These results suggest that relapsers may be vulnerable to emotion and thus have impaired response inhibition. Thus, interventions for emotion regulation may be required to prevent smoking relapse.

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The effect of self-control depletion on approach tendencies toward smoking cues in relapsers

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The main aim of this study was to investigate whether self-control depletion increases automatic action-tendencies to approach smoking cues in relapsers compared to abstainers. Forty-two relapsers and twenty-nine abstainers were assigned randomly to either depletion or control condition. Participants were asked to complete a Stimulus-Response Compatibility (SRC) task which measured the approach tendencies toward smoking-related cues. Following this pre-SRC task, participants performed the self-control depletion task to exert their self-control resource, and then completed the post-SRC task. Results indicated that relapsers in the depletion condition showed greater increase in approach tendency toward smoking cues while relapsers in the control condition and abstainers in both conditions did not. These results demonstrated the implicit mechanism of self-control depletion contributing to smoking relapse and suggest smoking relapse prevention focusing upon improving coping skills when self-control resources are depleted.

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The effects of stimulus used in intertemporal decision-making tasks

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People generally prefer an immediate reward to a delayed reward of the same amount. Such preferences can be understood in terms of temporal discounting. Most discounting experiments measure delayed reward value by having participants make a series of choices