



**A SURVEY ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCUS OF CONTROL,
GENDER AND TENDENCY TO DRUG ADDICTION AMONG STUDENTS**

**ELHAM ARDEKANI^{1*}, NASRIN BAGHAEI², MASOUMEH AZIMI GHDIKOLAEI³,
ZOHREH HEYDARI⁴, ELAHE ARDEKANI⁵**

1, 2, 3, 4: Department of Educational Science, Khorasan Razavi Science and Research
Branch, Islamic Azad University, Neyshabur, Iran

5: Allameh Tabataba'i University, Tehran, Iran

***Corresponding Author: E Mail: elahe.ardekani@yahoo.com**

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to investigate the relationship between locus of control, gender and tendency to drug addiction among students. The method of this study is correlation. To conduct the study, 176 students of Khorasan Razavi University of Science and Research studying in 2014 as a stratified random sample of counseling and clinical psychology students were selected. In order to collecting data from Rotter locus of control questionnaires (1966) tendency to drug addiction (2008) was used. There is a significant relationship between the locus of control and tendency to addiction. So that those who had higher external locus of control showed more tendency to addiction. The locus of control is an important role in tendency to addiction.

Keywords: Locus of control, tendency to drug addiction

INTRODUCTION

The concept of locus of control is to strengthen a psychological structure that originated from "Rotter" social learning theory (1945). Locus of control can be internal or external. Those who have internal locus of control believe that are original creators of their own lives, but those who have an external locus of control

believe that what happened to them is primarily the product of chance, coincidence or result of other people actions[4], Lilabadi's research (1997), showed that parents of children with internal control attend to their children, protect them and are kind to them also Houlder and Loy's research showed that

people who believe more in internal control, Mental distress, linear relationship between internal and external locus of control and psychological symptoms mentioned Thus, those who tend to internal locus of control have fewer symptoms than those with external locus of control. Also Strickland review (1978), showed that depressed and anxious testees tended to external locus of control (Heidari Pahlavian et al., 2000). Also, in a research indicated that internal control has considered as an aspect of personality and a way of dealing with stressful events in life. Those who have a sense of mastery and more internal control are more satisfied in life and are more healthy and less depression [2], [8], have shown that people with or external locus of control have different behaviors. People with internal locus of control are more motivated than people with external locus of control. They are more independent along consistency with others, as well as higher health and psychological compatibility.

Addiction potentiality means that along with those who are associated with a type of drug, a significant number of people can be found that in personality are prone to drug addiction this means that are at serious risk of addiction to one of the kind of drugs [12]. In a study entitled impact of parent's drug addiction on children and family has

been stated that children imitate the behavior of their parents even they assume their parent ugliest habits wise and logical and gradually they grow, curiosity make them to try drugs that their parents introduce. From now on they are drug addicted and engage in criminal behavior[16]. In a study entitled family and Social Hazards addiction studied and its impact on families is discussed. The results indicate that drug-addicted parents have decisive impact on the addiction of their children. The study has clearly shown that conflicts and disputes arising out of addiction, behavioral effects of parents, the legal background and their sentences, meeting father in jail can cause deviations. Totally, researcher realized significant relationship between family characteristics of drug addicts and children deviations [16]. Research Simons (2004) showed that low parental monitoring and control of their children makes them dependent on the outdoor counterparts and divert them to criminal behaviors such as drug addiction and running away from home. In Groulger and his colleagues research (2003) characterized that suicide ideation has a close relationship with unusual reactions to stress, such as alcohol and drug use, conflict with parents and being pessimism about the future. Springer et al (2006) research suggests that perceived support by

parents with adolescent risky behaviors, such as physical beating and drug use and suicide tend to have a meaningful relationship. The findings of Show and colleagues [14], also suggests that there is a significant correlation between emotional support received from parents at the beginning of life and health behavior in adulthood. There is no fear from drug addiction in people who live in addicted families, and normalization of drug use among family members facilitate other members to tend to drug addiction. If the parents are addicted in the family, their addiction reduce control and their dominance over children and on the other hand, transfer this habit to children. However, sometimes due to disgust of parents' behavior and exempling their parents, children stay away from this character but such parents has an important role in children addiction. Results of researches show that many of the addicts had addicted member in their family such as father, mother, grandfather, etc. (Madani, 2003). Parents play an important role in the growth of ethical behavior which ultimately lead to behavioral control, suppressing immediate demands and attention to the rights of others also in the process of socialization which child learn to adapt his desire with rules and discipline of families and society (Leil Abadi, 1996). In a

study entitled family and Social Hazards addiction studied and its impact on families is discussed. The results indicate that drug-addicted parents have decisive impact on the addiction of their children. The study has clearly shown that conflicts and disputes arising out of addiction, behavioral effects of parents, the legal background and their sentences, meeting father in jail can cause deviations. Totally, researcher realized significant relationship between family characteristics of drug addicts and children deviations [16]. In general, an ideal family is a family that procure emotional security, worthwhile feeling, and belong believe and being in love. In this kind of families, members will have more opportunities to achieve independence and accountability and children are more adapted [11]. Springer et al (2006) research suggests that perceived support by parents with adolescent risky behaviors, such as physical beating and drug use and suicide tend to have a meaningful relationship. The findings of Shaw and colleagues (2004) also suggests that there is a significant correlation between emotional support received from parents at the beginning of life and health behavior in adulthood. There is no fear from drug addiction in people who live in addicted families, and normalization of drug use among family members facilitate other members to tend

to drug addiction. If the parents are addicted in the family, their addiction reduce control and their dominance over children and on the other hand, transfer this habit to children. However, sometimes due to disgust of parents' behavior and exempling their parents, children stay away from this character but such parents has an important role in children addiction. Results of researches show that many of the addicts had addicted member in their family such as father, mother, grandfather, etc. (Madani, 2003). Majidpoor et al (2006) in their study showed that the main reasons for smoking as follows: intimate relationships with friends who smoke, to satisfy the internal needs and pleasure, smoking among family members, having emotional problems, not having fun, frustration of career prospects and educational stress. The results of Siam research [15],has confirmed this findings.Mohammadi [11],in a research showed that academic failure, record of parental drug addiction, frustrating relationship and, tense relations with father, low trust between parents and children are the risk factors for drug use.Although the researches have proved the importance of peers in tending adolescent to substance abuse, but the findings related to parental factors are inconsistent [13],The findings of

Show and colleagues [14],also suggests that there is a significant correlation between emotional support received from parents at the beginning of life and health behavior in adulthood.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The sample according to Morgan table consisted of 176 students, were selected by stratified random sampling method, in this study, samples were selected from counseling and guidance and clinical psychology students Islamic Azad University of Khorasan Razavi University of Science & Research branch (Neyshabour).

To collect information locus of control questionnaire (Rotter) and tendency to addiction [17],was used.Locus of control questionnaire: Include 29 articles, which each article has two sentence in A and B form. This scale has a good internal consistency and re-test scale. Richardson Validation and Split-Half have been reported 70%.In questions 29-25-23-21-20-18-17-16-9-7-6-2 choice ((a)) and in questions 28-26-22-15-13-12-11-10- 5-4-3 choice ((b)) shows external locus of control and each correct answer awarded one score and if testee choose the opposite options, no score will allocated. In addition, to the questions of 27-24-19-14-8-1 no score will allocated and in the main form of Rotter locus of control scale getting a high score

indicates the exterior orientation. This scale was developed by Rutter and Mrs Pvdad has translated into Persian. Score changes range in this scale is from zero to 23, the minimum score of the scale (representing the maximum internal attitude) maximum score that testee can acquire is 23 (indicating a maximum external view). Reliability and validity of Rotter locus of control scale has been investigated by several researchers. According to Robinson, Shaver and Rotter in 1996, scale the reliability of mentioned scale by using Split-Half method on students of Ohio University in America was 73% and reliability with Kuder-Richardson method by participating 400 testees was reported 70%. Reliability by using Test-retest method over 30 students and with an interval of one month is equal 0/83 and with two month interval was equal to 0/55 respectively. Tendency to addiction: Zargar, Najarian and Neamani [17], has made this scale and includes 36 article and 5 polygraph article. The validity of this article is reported 90% by Zargar, Najarian and Neamani [17], using Cronbach's alpha coefficient. Researcher after obtaining the necessary permits from University of Science & Research, give questionnaire to testees and they will be asked to answer questionnaires and after about a week of distributing questionnaires, the researcher

will collect the questionnaires. Preparation scale of the drug was made by Wade and Butcher (1992) and attempts for reliability of that in Iran has been made. This questionnaire is Iranian scale for addiction preparation which has made by Zargar [17], according to psychological-social Iranian society. This questionnaire consists of two factors with 36 articles plus 5 polygraph. Data was studied and analyzed based on statistical index of Pearson correlation coefficient and using SPSS software.

RESULTS

Describing tendency to addiction variable
Tendency to addiction among students has been evaluated in this research. Descriptive statistics indexes of this variables are presented according to gender separation the table below.

Every 3 questionnaire is presented in one table 1.

It is considered that among Intended students the mean tendency to drug addiction is 5/29, so that the tendency among women is 1/26 and among men is 34/9. On the other side, the minimum calculated is 0 and the maximum value is 89. It should be noted that the standard deviation parameter is 0 to 89 is obtained. It should be noted that the standard deviation under study among women is 13/7, and 18/8 among men and in general is

16/4. The above results clearly shown in the Table 2.

The results of above table states that locus of control mean among women and men equals to 9/3 and standard deviation is 3/8. The minimum value for this variable is 1 and the maximum value obtained 20. However, the mean for this variable among women students is 9/4 and in men testes equal to 9/0 which has close to each other values. Locus of control deviation between men and women is respectively 3/7 and 3/9. The hypothesis in this study include;

"There is a relationship between the locus of control and tendency to addiction."

For testing this hypothesis the Pearson correlation coefficient was used. The results are for the variables locus of control and tendency to addiction as shown in Table 3.

The correlation coefficient value between locus of control and tendency to addiction have been reported 0/37 that indicate low correlation between the variables. But regarding to P-value corresponding to (0.00) test that is less than 0/05, the relationship between these variables

confirmed. In other words, by 95 percent confidence;

"There is a significant relationship between the locus of control and tendency to addiction."

Thus, the more locus of control be external the more tendency to addiction and the more internal tendency to addiction is lower.

Sub hypotheses of research is defined as follows: "There is relationship between gender of students, tending to drug addiction."

To examine the hypothesis that investigates the relationship between respondents' gender with their tendency to drug addiction, independent t-test was used. The results are reported in the table 4 below.

As shown in the above table 4, the t-statistic equal to -3/04 with degrees of freedom 174 have been reported. P-value corresponding with test statistic has a value of 0/003 which is smaller than significant level of test(0/05). So we can say with 95% confidence that "there is relationship between genders of students with tendency to addiction among them."

Table 1: Descriptive statistics tendency to drug addiction and emotional atmosphere questionnaires

	Gender	Numbers	Mean	standard deviation	Minimum	Maximum
tendency to drug addiction	Women	107	26/1	13/7	7	72
	Men	69	34/9	18/8	0	89
	Total	176	29/5	16/4	0	89

Table 2: Descriptive statistics of locus of control variable

locus of control	Gender	Number	Mean	SD	Minimum	Maximum
	Woman	107	9/4	3/7	2	20
	Man	69	9/0	3/9	2	16
	Total	176	9/3	3/8	1	20

Table 3: Pearson correlation coefficient test result

Variables	Number	Correlation coefficient	P-value
locus of control tendency to addiction	176	0/37	0/00

Table 4: The result of independent t-test for Sub hypotheses of research

Gender	Sample volume	Mean	SD	t-statistic	Degree of freedom	P-value
Women	107	26/09	13/73	3/04	174	0/003
Men	69	34/91	18/81			

CONCLUSION

In the present study the relationship between the locus of control and tendency to addiction was investigated and the results showed that, due to the direct link between locus of control and tendency to addiction the more locus of control be external the more tendency to addiction.

The findings of this study are consistent with results of other studies.

The results of statistical analysis about this theory has shown that the locus of control has predictive power of tendency to addiction.

According to Arabian research in 2004, many experts believe that on the issue of crime, lack of affection and emotional weakness rooted in crimes. A research From West about delinquency has shown that 91% criminals had emotional

problems, so this study is corresponding with current research.

Stepo and Wardle (2001) also believe that high internal locus of control has positive relationship with Increasing the probability of healthy behavior [14].

In Groleger, U. & et al researches (2003) found that suicide ideation has a close relationship with unusual responses to stress, such as alcohol and drug use, conflict with parents and pessimism about the future.

Lafkurt and Davidson Katz [1],believe that people with external locus of control often deal weakly because when assessing life events, are less willing to do something .

Ganji [5],in a study concluded that people who are affected by internal locus of control are healthier and act purposeful and are able to deal with better with issues

while people with external locus of control show lethargy.

Niour (1989), declared that there is a significant relationship between internal locus of control and independence in decision making and those who have internal locus of control commit fewer ethical issues in their decision [2].

According to Rutter (1966) those who believe they control their destiny, internal locus of control, and those who believe that external factors control their destiny has external locus of control [16].

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