

ABSTRACT

Çakır, Zehra. *The Relationships Between Early Maladaptive Schemas, Perceived Parenting Styles and Schema Driven Coping Styles in Antisocial Personality Disorder: An Investigation through the Schema Therapy Model*, Master's Thesis, Ankara, 2007.

This study examined the early maladaptive schemas, perceived parenting styles, the relations between these variables and behaviors for coping with maladaptive schemas (schema avoidance and overcompensation) in antisocial personality disorder (APD). The mediator role of maladaptive schemas between perceived parenting styles and avoidance and overcompensation behaviors as schema coping behaviors was also investigated. In addition, the difference between individuals with APD and the comparison group were examined with respect to sexual, physical and emotional abuse histories. The sample of the study consisted of 66 individuals with APD and a comparison group of 53 individuals. Young Schema Questionnaire- Short Form 3 (YSQ-SF3), Young Parenting Inventory (YPI), Young Compensation Inventory (YCI) and Young-Rygh Avoidance Inventory (YR-AI) were used. Brief Symptom Inventory (BSI) was also applied in order to determine the symptom levels of the comparison group.

MANOVAs were conducted to answer the main research questions. Results revealed that the APD group had higher points than the comparison group on various subscales of the YSQ, YPI, YCI and YR-AI. Perceived paternal belittling and uncontrolling parenting styles predicted maladaptive schemas. Results of hierarchical regression analyses showed that the relations between dysfunctional parental perceptions and overcompensation behaviors were mediated by maladaptive schemas. Chi-square analyses were conducted to examine differences between the APD and the comparison group regarding physical, emotional and sexual abuse histories. Results revealed that the two groups differed significantly with respect to all three types of abuse; indicating that individuals with APD had higher rates of abuse.

Overall this study showed that individuals with APD had more maladaptive schemas and dysfunctional coping behaviors. Individuals with APD also had abuse histories-including abuse by parents-and had more negative perceptions towards their parents. It is also found that maladaptive schemas acted as a mediator between parental perceptions and avoidance behaviors. The results were discussed with respect to the extant literature.

Keywords:

Early maladaptive schemas, dysfunctional parenting perception, schema avoidance, schema overcompensation.