

ORIGINAL PAPER

Effects of Childhood Trauma on Hostility, Family Environment and Narcissism of Adult Individuals

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Abstract

Aim: This study aimed to investigate the effects of childhood trauma on hostility, family functioning and narcissism in adulthood. 595 healthy individuals participated, classified into two groups— trauma and no-trauma — based on experienced traumatic events.

Methodology: The Hostility and Direction of Hostility Questionnaire, the Aggression subscale of The Symptom Checklist-90-R, the Family Environment Scale and The Narcissistic Personality Inventory were administered.

Results: Higher levels of hostility ($p=.040$) and aggression ($p=.041$) were observed among participants reported exposure to a traumatic event. Apart from the conflict subscale ($p=.018$), no dysfunctional family environment was found. Narcissistic traits did not differ between the two groups ($p=.199$). Logistic regression models found that participants experienced childhood trauma had a higher risk of overall hostility (OR=0.92, 95% CI=.89-.99).

Key Words: Hostility • family conflict • childhood trauma • narcissism • stressful events