

Longitudinal association between child emotion regulation and aggression, and the role of parenting: a comparison of three cultures

Article

Supplemental Material

Bozicevic, L., De Pascalis, L., Schuitmaker, N., Tomlinson, M., Cooper, P. J. and Murray, L. (2016) Longitudinal association between child emotion regulation and aggression, and the role of parenting: a comparison of three cultures. *Psychopathology*, 49 (4). pp. 228-235. ISSN 0254-4962 doi: 10.1159/000447747 Available at <https://centaur.reading.ac.uk/66043/>

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To link to this article DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1159/000447747>

Publisher: Karger

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PCA Analyses

We ran Principal component analyses (PCA), with oblique rotation (direct oblimin), on child ER strategies, and maternal strategies during infant distress. The number of components to extract was determined through Kaiser's criterion. For component interpretation, a cut-off of 0.5 was chosen for loadings. The use of similar statistical techniques has been examined in the context of small sample sizes [1], and considered reliable.

Child ER Strategies

The PCA on child strategies revealed three components (Bartlett's test: $X^2(15)=98.030$, $p<.001$) that explained 72.95% of variance. The first included, with positive loading, 'distraction' (.692), and with negative loading, 'self-soothing' (-.860). The second component included, with positive loading, 'avoidance' (.972), and with negative loading, 'attempts to obtain the toy' (-.579). The final component included both subcategories of passive gaze, i.e., 'passive gaze to the toy' (.901) and 'passive gaze to the adults' (.645), both positively loaded. Given loadings with opposite signs, variables in the first two components were treated separately in analyses, while the two passive gaze scores were aggregated into a single variable.

Maternal Strategies during Infant Distress

The PCA on maternal strategies revealed two components (Bartlett's test: $X^2(15)=33.648$, $p=.004$) that explained 58.43% of variance. The first included the two subcategories of 'Physical soothing': feeding or providing a pacifier (.899), and physical comforting (.767). For the second, 'Dismissal of distress', the strongest loadings were for non-effective distraction (.836), ignoring (.724), and non-soothing care-taking (.613). Social soothing did not load strongly on either of the two factors. Items in each of the two components were

aggregated to create two superordinate variables that were used in subsequent analyses. The remaining measure, 'social soothing', was analyzed separately.

Reference

1. de Winter JCF, Dodou D, Wieringa PA: Exploratory factor analysis with small sample sizes. *Multivariate Behav Res* 2009;44:147–181.