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**ABSTRACT BOOK**

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## **Plenary lectures**

Abstract number: 1

ID number of submission: -

### **Foster care from a developmental perspective and Croatian experiences**

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#### Abstract

According to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, State Parties should ensure alternative care for children deprived of their biological family environment, or in whose own best interests cannot be allowed to remain in biological family. Foster care is one of these alternative care systems, which enables children removed from the biological family to grow and develop in family context rather than in institutions. In this talk I shall put forward theoretical reasoning and present empirical data supporting the notion that foster care is a relevant system which promotes and protects development of vulnerable population of children deprived of biological family. However, to be effective, foster care must meet certain quality criteria, which will also be discussed in the talk. Using the case of Croatian foster care system, which has undergone profound changes and improvements during the last two decades, I shall illustrate the importance of implementing theoretical and empirical knowledge from the field of developmental science in building quality foster care.

Keyword: foster care, Croatian, development

Abstract number: 2  
ID number of submission: -

## Attachment, early maladaptive schemas and stressful experiences

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### Abstract

Lecture presents two studies the relation of attachment, early maladaptive schemes (EMS) and stressful experiences, based on a sample of 911 students and 225 young adults in the process of transition from the family of origin to their own. In both research EMS were measured SQ-SF questionnaire. Attachment was measured with modification of ECR, contains *dimensions of anxiety and avoidance and attachment patterns extracted based on them*. Stressful experiences include early stressful experience - separations, losses, establishing intimacy with mother, absence of one parent, change of residence (students) and family stressful experience - dependence (alcoholism, drug addiction), the losses (including premature deaths, suicides and homicides), physical and mental illness, handicaps, refugees, violence and imprisonment (young adults). Variables that examined the relationship with the mother, the relationship between parents and material status were used on student sample and family variables measured by FACES-IV on young adult sample.

The results show a greater presence of insecure attachment in adult sample. 37% of students and 50% of young adults had experience a stressful event. Pronounced EMS are connected to insecure attachment, but most pronounced in fearful style on both samples. Stressful experiences are associated with more pronounced EMS on a sample of young adults, a connection between stressful experiences, family functioning and dimensions of anxiety exist only on sample of young adults. Early stressful experience are significant predictors of a small number of schemes on a sample of students, while the stressful family experiences affect multiple EMS on a sample of young adults. Significant effect on relations of attachment and EMS, have variables related to the quality of relations and conditions on a student sample. Among respondents in different life periods, students and young adults, appear more significant differences, indicating depending of the family of origin young adults and an unwillingness to enter into the next developmental phase.

Keywords: attachment, early maladaptive schemes (EMS), stressful experiences, students, young adults



Abstract number: 3  
ID number of submission: -

## **Has the Baby been given Back? Insights from the Mirror Interview**

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*University of Copenhagen, Denmark*

### Abstract

Winnicott asked himself what the baby saw when looking at the mothers face, and answered the question by saying that the baby saw his or herself. This insight was based on the assumption that the expression on the mother's face when looking at her baby reflected how she felt about her infant. Winnicott defined the mother's function as giving back to the baby the baby's own self.

Inspired by this insight Paulina Kernberg designed the Mirror Interview in which subjects are asked questions whilst looking at themselves in a full-length mirror. The results of the interview in 134 adolescents (control group 68, personality disorder 66), shows that adolescents with personality disorder have great difficulty in balancing how they feel about themselves with the image they see in the mirror. In other words, the sense of self as subject seems to be alienated from the sense of self as object.

The theoretical background for this sense of alienation will be outlined and results from the mirror interview showing this split in the sense of self will be demonstrated.

Keywords: mirror interview, baby-mother, sence of self

# **Health psychology and psychotherapy**

Abstract number: 4

ID number of submission: 12

## **Stress and well-being**

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### **Abstract**

The basic psychological constructs in the theoretical and applied field of Health Psychology are stress, well-being, life satisfaction and feeling of happiness. Our research interests are focused on the interaction and dynamics of these phenomena into work environment with higher risk. The aim of the current research is to identify a correlation between the subjective perception for the levels of stress and well-being within a six month period and a correlation with self-perception for feeling of happiness and life satisfaction. A pilot survey was conducted with a sample of 90 respondents, 36 men and 54 women, aged 26 to 64 ( $M=42.52$ ;  $SD=8.89$ ), 20 people live alone and 70 – have a partner. Respondents work as pilots, air traffic controllers, administrators, managers, doctors and science workers, 34 of them assess their profession as risky and 56 - not risky. For the last six months their estimates for the levels of stress and well-being are predominantly in the middle and the upper part of the scale of their subjective perceptions where the levels of well-being are assessed higher than those of stress. The results support the hypothesis regarding significant positive correlations between well-being and life satisfaction, well-being and happiness and negative correlations with stress levels. It was found that respondents who live with a partner are more satisfied with their life than the ones who live alone. No significant differences were registered in the assessment of subjective perception depending on the type of profession – risky or not risky.

Keywords: stress, well-being, happiness, life satisfaction

Abstract number: 5

ID number of submission: 47

## **Research and methods within health psychology: Some recent methodological developments**

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University of Niš*

### Abstract

Focusing in particular on the issues of research and methods, the paper provides a brief discussion of some recent critical ('hermeneutical') approaches developed within contemporary health psychology, contrasting them concisely with a 'mainstream' ('objective' or 'scientific') health psychology – especially with regard to central methodological points of difference between these approaches. Many of traditional methods and research designs in health psychology are quantitative in nature, placing strong emphasis on reliable and valid measurement in controlled investigations, as well as on statistical forms of psychological data analysis congruent with an 'objective' approach to biomedical data. Critical health psychology aims to reformulate the study and to re-direct its focus in order to take greater account of personal experiences and meanings related to human health and illness. In the paper it has pointed out that 'mainstream' health psychology needs to include more the qualitative research methods such as semi-structured and in-depth interviews, case-studies, focus groups, interpretive phenomenological analysis, narratives or texts. It is argued that the reason for the use of these qualitative methods is that they enable the researchers to gather and explore in-detail important and information rich data about individual meaning and value of various aspects of human health and illness. In conclusion, it is emphasized that health psychology is a rapidly growing field of psychological study that generates a number of various research questions and, therefore, requires a wide range of methods and research designs to answer these questions properly. Qualitative research approaches are important part in psychological exploring health and illness concepts and experiences

Keywords: health psychology, critical approaches, research methods, qualitative methods, health and illness

Abstract number: 6

ID number of submission: 48

## **An interpretative analysis of narrative reports made by psychology students who participated in the experimental learning course " Group dynamics"**

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Singidunum University, Belgrade, Serbia*

### Abstract

The main objective of this qualitative research is to analyze the involved group dynamics among psychology students at the Faculty of Media and Communications in Belgrade. This paper also aims to evaluate the students' progress by indirect means, e.g. through the interpretation of the group's story. The story of the group is drawn from exam papers on this course, which were narrative in their nature, as well as to indirectly assess students' progress on the basis of interpretation of the story of the group. Further research objectives are the discovery of potential proposals for the improvement of the course based upon the interpretative analysis of course reports, and understanding the importance of this course from students' perspective. The overall group product (students test papers) has been generated from "The Group Tell-A-Story" exercise and it was analyzed by interpretative phenomenological analysis. A total of 16 participants (13 female and 3 male) have met once a week for 75 minutes at the Faculty, over a period of 12 weeks. The group was led by a transactional analysis oriented psychotherapist who has also been the one that has analyzed the group's identity reflected in the story. The analysis of these group processes will be examined through TA concepts (such as the Cultural Parent, script expectations and injunctions) and through the usage of techniques from dynamic psychology. This study describes the cultural introjects in the Parent ego state (the Cultural Parent according to Berne), identifies script expectations at the beginning of the group meetings of individual members about the general belief that the participants are not good enough and how injunctions, such as "Don't belong" and "Don't be close" are formed from such beliefs. The research at hand also shows the importance of this experiential learning course from the perspective of students, in regards to both personal and professional growth and development.

Keywords: group dynamics, transactional analysis, script expectations, cultural introjects, injunctions

Abstract number: 7  
ID number of submission: 55

## Does happiness come from within? Some predictors of subjective well-being

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*University of Niš*

### Abstract

Subjective well-being is defined by Edward Diener as cognitive and affective evaluation of one's life and it consists of two components: cognitive component (life satisfaction) and affective component (positive and negative affect).

The aim of this study was to determine in which degree some socio-demographic variables, personality traits, gratitude, self-image and flow experience explain components of subjective well-being. The sample was convenient and it consisted of 140 respondents (M=32; F=108). The average age was 26.26.

Instruments used in this study were: The Satisfaction With Life Scale, PANAS, HEXACO-PI-R-60, The Gratitude Questionnaire, The Multidimensional Student's Life Satisfaction Scale, The Flow short scale and questionnaire regarding socio-demographical variables.

The data was analyzed using linear regression. Criterion variables were components of subjective well-being (life satisfaction, positive and negative affect) and predictors were personality traits (separately taken), gratitude, self-image, flow and socio-demographic variables (gender, financial status, and relationship status).

Statistically significant predictors of life satisfaction were: Honesty ( $R^2=0.035$ ;  $\beta=0.187$ ), Extraversion ( $R^2=0.168$ ;  $\beta=0.410$ ), Conscientiousness ( $R^2=0.039$ ;  $\beta=0.197$ ), Gratitude ( $R^2=0.208$ ;  $\beta=0.462$ ), Self-image ( $R^2=0.256$ ;  $\beta=0.506$ ), Flow ( $R^2=0.091$ ;  $\beta=0.302$ ), Financial status ( $R^2=0.079$ ;  $\beta=0.281$ ), Relationship status ( $R^2=0.028$ ;  $\beta=0.107$ ).

All predictors, taken together account for 48.1% of the total variance of life satisfaction. Statistically significant predictors of positive affect were: Honesty ( $R^2=0.035$ ;  $\beta=0.187$ ), Extraversion ( $R^2=0.075$ ;  $\beta=0.273$ ), Conscientiousness ( $R^2=0.100$ ;  $\beta=0.316$ ), Gratitude ( $R^2=0.066$ ;  $\beta=0.257$ ), Self-image ( $R^2=0.105$ ;  $\beta=0.324$ ), Flow ( $R^2=0.032$ ;  $\beta=0.178$ ). Together, all predictors account for 22.4% of the total variance of positive affect. Regarding negative affect, statistically significant predictors were: Emotionality ( $R^2=0.177$ ;  $\beta=0.421$ ), Extraversion ( $R^2=0.084$ ;  $\beta=-0.290$ ), Openness to Experience ( $R^2=0.028$ ;  $\beta=-0.166$ ), Self-image ( $R^2=0.056$ ;  $\beta=-0.237$ ), Flow ( $R^2=0.089$ ;  $\beta=-0.298$ ).

All predictors, taken together account for 31% of the total variance of negative affect. In conclusion, it can be said that most of the theoretical expectations were confirmed. Further research is suggested in order to determine other significant predictors of subjective well-being.

Keywords: subjective well-being, happiness, gratitude, flow, self-image

Abstract number: 8

ID number of submission: 60

## **The method – The line of a least resistance (a new psychotherapeutic insight in a world of dreams)**

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### Abstract

This paper elaborates an important topic in the field of psychology of dreams. Particularly, it presents a new, integrative, method derived from the author's practical work with dreams in terms of psychoanalytic paradigm. Apart from practice, this paper comes from theoretical research, findings and the development of a new, possible, integrative theoretical framework in which the author, through his practice and theoretical knowledge, brings closer psychoanalytic observations of the phenomenon of sleep and neurocognitive concepts, seeking their common foundation in a phenomenon called - personal significance of dreams. Therefore, this paper shows the development of the so-called method of line of least resistance in working with dreams which basically is a psychoanalytic, practical method that also deals with the symbolism of the dream to the level of the personal unconscious, mostly referring to the recent awake experiences and the way they affect the manifest content of the dream. The author presents this method in its several structural elements of the narrative structure of dreams and explains it through its objectives, tasks and procedures in the practical work with dreams. Some of the elements that are elaborated include social, motivational, affective and other aspects of the narrative structure as well as the universal and the collective aspects of the narrative structure and the scenario of the dream's content. This paper identifies several examples from the practice and an application of this method. Furthermore, the author and the co-author of this paper refer to theoretical explanations of the significance of this method not only for psychology but as well as for psychological practice.

Keywords: dreams, method, psychoanalysis, narrative structure, psychotherapy

## **Adolescence and adulthood**

Abstract number: 9

ID number of submission: 57

### **Predictors of psychoactive substances use among adolescents**

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#### Abstract

Many studies have indicated that adolescence is filled with numerous rapid physical and psychological changes, and the need to meet the expectations of family, school and society. Process of adaptation on these complex circumstances can often induce high levels of stress and cause risky behavior of adolescents, among which is the use of psychoactive substances. Also, studies have shown that the risk factors, in addition to stress, can also be socio-demographic variables, such as lower socio-economic status, gender and school success. The aim of this study was to determinate whether, and to what extent, gender, age, education, father's level of education, material status, average grade and stress predict the use of PAS among adolescent population. The study was conducted in the first half of 2015/16 school year<sup>1</sup>. The sample consisted of 1771 participants aged 15-19, of which 59% are female. The following instruments were used: Perceived Stress Scale (PSS; Cohen, Kamarch, Mermelstein, 1983), Substance Abuse Questionnaire and Socio-demographic Questionnaire. The results of multiple binary regression have shown that significant predictors are gender (Exp(B)=1,65,  $p<.01$ ), age (Exp(B)=1,97,  $p<.001$ ), father's level of education (Exp(B)=1,49,  $p<.001$ ), average grade (Exp(B)=0,65,  $p<.001$ ) and stress (Exp(B)=1,39,  $p<.001$ ). The total percentage of explained variance of the dependent variable was 24%, while the model correctly classified 74.2% of cases. The practical implications of these results lie in the ability to create support programs that would, in addition to education of adolescents about the harmfulness of PAS, incorporate efforts to strengthen the psychological capacity and functional ways and strategies for coping with stress and resisting peer pressure.

Keywords: psychoactive substances, adolescents, risk behaviors, stress

Abstract number: 10

ID number of submission: 74a

## The preparedness of youth leaving alternative care and self-efficacy

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*Belgrade, Serbia*

Youth leaving care are exposed to numerous risks. One of the factors that can contribute to reducing risks and increasing positive outcomes is perceived self-efficacy. The study examines relationship between self-efficacy and the level of preparedness of youth to leave alternative care based on indicators: support networks, skills for adaptive socialization, sense of readiness to leave care and perceptions of future.

The basic premise of research is that young people who have an experience of self-efficacy, are more prepared to leave alternative care.

Study included 151 young person in alternative care (N = 86, 57% on foster care, and N = 36, 23.8% at the residential homes, and least youth are at the kinship N = 27, 17.9% of both sexes. (N = 76, 50.3% of girls and N= 75,49.7%) of the ages between of 16 to 22 years

The General Self-efficacy scale was used to assess self-efficacy ((GSE) Jerusalem and Schwarzer, 1995) which estimates efficacy beliefs in professional training, practical and social skills and support networks.

Results show that boys have higher scores on self-efficacy scale than girls in the sample,  $F(1,138) = 6.79, p < .01$ . Young people who have a higher self-efficacy mastered skills for independent living such as purchasing household items  $F(3,132) = 4.25, p < .05$ . Differences exist in relation to development of social network of support and friendship,  $F(3,132) = 74.47, p < .05$ .

Young people who feel anxious regarding leaving care have less developed self impression of efficacy  $F(1,132) = 5.99, p < .05$ , while those with optimistic expectations of future have higher self-efficacy  $F(4,131) = 5.71, p < .05$ .

We can conclude that the construct of self-efficacy significantly correlates with the perceptions of preparedness of young people for emancipation.

Keywords: self-efficacy, leaving care, emancipation

Abstract number: 11

ID number of submission: 78



## Importance of life goals, perception of current and probability of future life goals realization in student population

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### Abstract

The aim of this research is to determine the importance of life goals, current goals' realization and the perception of probability of future life goals realization in student population. Additional aim is to determine gender differences in relation to estimated aspects of life goals. Main sample of the research was comprised of 392 students attending State University of Novi Pazar and Faculty of Philosophy in Nis. Extrinsic and intrinsic goals were measured by Life Goals Query (AL).

Among the group of extrinsic goals, the greatest amount of value is attached to the life goal Wealth (AS=4,73; SD=1,36). In the case of current perception of life goal realization, the first place belongs to Appearance (AS=3,71; SD=1,33). When measuring the perception of future goals' realization, the students consider Wealth to be the most achievable life goal in the future (AS=4,37; SD=1,20).

Among the intrinsic life goals, the students rated Relationship with Others highly on their list (AS=6,37; SD=0,73). In measuring current life goals' realization the first place belongs to Relationship with Others (AS=5,01; SD=1,26). When considering future realization, the students consider Relationship with Others to be the most achievable life goal in the future (AS=5,87; SD=0,93).

Regardless of the measured goal's aspect, the results indicated gender difference in the following life goals: Relationship with Others ( $t = -3,97$ ;  $p \leq .000$ ), Personal Growth ( $t = -4,07$ ;  $p \leq .000$ ), Health ( $t = -1,98$ ;  $p \leq .005$ ) and Appearance ( $t = -4,25$ ;  $p \leq .000$ ); with all the differences indicating higher level of expression in female students.

In general, intrinsic life goals are more expressed in both male and female students– they feel that these kind of goals have already been realized in greater extent, therefore, according to their opinion, there is a greater chance of their future realization in comparison to extrinsic goals. The gender difference in results can generally be explained by the traditional gender roles and biological differences.

Keywords: extrinsic life goals, intrinsic life goals

Abstract number: 12

ID number of submission: 79

## The concept of responsible parenthood from the perspective of young people

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### Abstract

The family is considered to be the most responsible for developing the overall personality of the child. It prepares children for independent living, as marriage, family and parenthood. The paper parenthood determined as a complex role that carries great responsibility and develops in the context of child development, parents and families and the entire society. The very notion of parenting is acquired spontaneously in the context of mutual relations of parents. The aim of the research is to determine what the basis of the concept of responsible parenthood from the perspective of young people? A convenience sample was selected for the study, consisting of 148 students of second and third year of the High College of Vocational Studies for Preschool Teachers and Business Informatics – Sirmium from Sremska Mitrovica. Research was conducted using interviewing techniques. Of the instruments in research was used questionnaire that is designed for the needs of this research. Questionnaire contains 13 questions closed type, which provide a choice offered answers relating to testing of parental influence on young people and the expectations of young people about the role parents in the future perform. The collected data are processed in the statistical package SPSS 21.0. and are descriptive indicators (frequency and percentage) which are used in the interpretation of data and the drawing of conclusions. On the basis of these results it can be concluded that the concept of responsible parenthood based on uniform relevance more segments: quality communication of parents with young people, their emotional security, the provision of support and understanding.

Keywords: family, youth, parenthood

Abstract number: 13

ID number of submission: 91

## Anxiety in Adulthood

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For a long time adulthood was unjustifiably considered to be a peaceful period of human life without significant changes. In adulthood, which is the longest stage of human life, people change and develop, whereby some changes occur gradually while others occur abruptly. The person's development is caused by developmental and accidental crisis and a permanent interaction with his/her development. Accompanying emotional state of the development is often the feeling of anxiety which is defined as an excessive feeling of fear, tension and worry appearing as an emotional and physiological reaction of the human organism to a threat and danger in its environment, whereby the threat and danger are not certain but predicted. The intensity and duration of anxiety depends of the person's characteristics, situation and person's value system which changes during his/her life. The aim of this research was to perceive differences in the degree of severity of various forms of anxiety in stages of adulthood, according to D. Levinson. In this research The Anxious Thoughts Inventory (AnTI: Wells, A., 1994) was used for measuring the level of anxiety. This scale includes three subscales: Social Worry, Health Worry and Meta-Worry. The research sample included 217 examinees (113 females and 103 males) aged 40 to 55 years. The results obtained show that the level of anxiety is equable in this period of human life. The results show the presence of sociodemographic characteristics of examinees which could be related to the anxiety level: in females health worry is more prominent, while higher educational level is related to meta-worry. Although the difference in anxiety level was not perceived in examinees having different marital status, the difference concerning all three forms of anxiety was perceived in married examinees who express different levels of satisfaction with their marriage and spouses. The difference was also perceived in examinees having different employment status and sociodemographic status as well. The importance of the results obtained lies in the possibility of improving preventive work and psychotherapy with persons of this age.

Keywords: anxiety, adulthood, AnTi, prevention

Abstract number: 14

ID number of submission: 93

## Modern Theoretical Approach to Adulthood

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### Abstract

Despite the fact that theoretical analysis of adult development substantially grew in popularity in the 1980s with the work of Daniel Levinson, one of the pioneers of the new approach to lifetime development, modern authors still debate whether becoming middle aged is a crisis or not, as well as if development in this period of life should be analyzed over time or in connection to specific events.

Initially, we comment briefly on the advantages and disadvantages of the chronological approach to the event-related approach and review various theoretical standings motivated by the question whether transition to middle age is a crisis or not. Then, in this paper we present in more detail basic theoretical standings of developmental psychoanalysts to adulthood, primarily the standings of Calvin Colarusso, one of the leading authors of this area. Colarusso made a great contribution to our understanding of lifetime development, but he is still less known to the Serbian psychological community. In the 1990s, Colarusso continued the terminology of the first and second individualization, introduced by Mahler and Blos, and introduced the concepts of the third, fourth and fifth individualizations in order to bring the attention to the normative processes in the development of adults. In general terms, according to this standing, in the same way as the first two individualizations, the other three reflect the achieved level of stability of self and object. On the other hand they are qualitatively different because parents do not have a dominant role in their realization, they are more influenced by the physical regression than growth, and they happen in periods of a more complex psychological structure.

Keywords: adulthood, developmental psychoanalysis

## **Psychology of creativity**

Abstract number: 15

ID number of submission: 76

## Growing up of famous creators

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### Abstract

So far, the research of gifted and actualized creators was partially targeted towards the source and nature of their specific characteristics that are often manifesting in the early developmental period. Among the theoreticians and researchers from this field, there is a debate between the natavistic viewpoint on giftedness and the view point where the talent and creativity are mainly product of practice, intrinsic motivation, specific cognitive style or, among other things, atypical brain organization that is present with some autistic children with exceptional achievements (such as music, or arts). Still, we are aware that even the most talented children and most of the child prodigies that show exceptional capabilities in arts and science at the very early age, don't become famous creators.

We tried to find some answers in this paper, that are in regards to emotional and social development in childhood and adolescence of the affirmed creators from the field of arts and science. Research of the literature that deals with biographical data and the work of these creators provided the list of questions. Among other things, do the creators come from the families that supported child's need for knowledge and achievement? Whether the children were overprotected, or unwanted, disregarded, or suffered the loss of someone close (parent, sibling, death in the family, divorce, migration...)? Question about the dominant mother and passive father, or vice versa? Children, future creators, living with the disability? Are those children, often unrecognized/recognized by educators or parents as being exceptional in certain field? Psychopathological disorders during the childhood and adolescence in famous creators?

In the final conclusions, author will elaborate on the findings from the studies dealing with these issues.

Keywords: affirmed creators, childhood, giftedness, creativity

Abstract number: 16

ID number of submission: 5

## University students' beliefs about creativity

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### Abstract

Research into beliefs about creativity is significant because of the influence which those beliefs may have on an individual's approach both towards their own creativity and that of others. This paper presents the results of research carried out in the aim of achieving a better understanding of the beliefs about creativity of pedagogy students, who are preparing to work in educational institutions. Students (N=32) completed a questionnaire with open-ended questions related to what creativity is and how it is expressed and then some of them (N=7) participated in a focus group on the same subject. The responses to the questions from the questionnaire were categorised by means of the 4P's model of creativity (person, process, product, press). Frequency analysis of the gained answers was then conducted as well as thematic analysis of the discussion carried out in the focus group. The results obtained from the questionnaire pointed out that the participants in the research most often defined creativity in terms of a creative person and a creative process. Characteristics of personality and motivation dominated among the characteristics of a creative person, while cognitive and expressive processes were most present among the creative process. The opinions expressed by the focus group were compliant with the results from the questionnaire, but the biggest part of the discussion was dedicated to the impact of environmental press. In the discussion the complexity of the phenomenon of creativity was emphasised and the uncertainty of the participants in their personal perception of creativity expressed. It was concluded that students' conceptualisation of creativity is consistent with scientific theories, but that their uncertainty in their own beliefs demands additional work on training future pedagogists as experts who are able to recognise the creativity of those whose education they participate in.

Keywords: beliefs, creativity, definitions of creativity, manifestations of creativity, pedagogy students

Abstract number: 17

ID number of submission: 13

## **Fostering creativity during university studies: students perspectives**

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## Abstract

Creativity is a highly valued educational objective whose implementation is expected at the university level. Beliefs of the final year pedagogy students of the University of Belgrade were tested on opportunities of developing creativity during their studies. A self-administered questionnaire was initially administered to 32 students in order to assess how university studies may help creativity development, and then a focus group discussion comprising 7 students was entertained to validate the answers. As the questionnaire revealed, a majority of students was convinced that creativity may be expressed and developed to a great deal during the studying. Students opined that stimulating teaching activities and the educational climate mostly contribute to the creativity. Stimulating teaching activities include interactive teaching, group work, learning from different sources, participation in projects and discussions, and instigation to offer a variety of solutions to problems at issue. The educational climate contributing to the creativity development comprises stimulation of freedom of mind and speech, as well as respect for different points of view and perspectives. Focus group partially agreed with the questionnaire's respondents, who tended to be more critical in assessing existing opportunities for expressing and developing creativity during the studying. Focus group members emphasized the importance of university teachers' role in providing conditions favourable for expression and development of creativity, but also deliberated on numerous limiting factors in that respect. Our results indicate the direction in which university education is possible and necessary to be modified in order to support students' creativity development to a higher degree.

Keywords: students' beliefs, creativity development, pedagogy students

Abstract number: 18

ID number of submission: 61

### **Is schizotypy an important predictor of creative behavior?**

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## Abstract

Many studies have found positive correlation between schizotypy and creativity, which is consistent with the so-called “madness-creativity” hypothesis. On the other hand, according to previous studies, openness to experience has been shown to be well established predictor of creativity. However, it is not clear if schizotypy remains an important predictor of creativity after taking into account other notable personality traits. Therefore, the aim of this study was to explore if schizotypy remains significant predictor of creative behavior, even after considering the Big Five personality traits.

Total of 181 students (female= 87,3%; mean age= 20,09; SD= 2,19) took part in our research. Participants completed the Biographical Inventory of Creative Behaviors (BICB) which measures everyday creative activities in the past 12 months, Big Five Inventory (BFI) and Schizotypal Personality Questionnaire – Brief Revised (SPQ-BR) which covers three dimensions of schizotypy: cognitive-perceptual, interpersonal and disorganized.

In the first step of hierarchical regression analysis, all three dimension of schizotypy were statistically significant predictors of creative behavior (for cognitive-perceptual factor  $\beta = .17$ ;  $p < .05$ ; for interpersonal  $\beta = -.20$ ;  $p < .05$  and for disorganized  $\beta = .21$ ;  $p < .05$ ) with 7.5% of variance explained. However, after inclusion of the Big Five personality traits in the next step of the analysis, openness to experience turned out to be the only significant predictor of creative behavior in the whole model ( $\beta = .40$ ;  $p < .001$ ) with  $R^2 = 25,7$ .

Initially it seems that our results are consistent with findings showing that schizotypy is associated with creativity. However, hierarchical regression analysis revealed that not schizotypy, but openness to experience essentially predicts creativity. Thus, our results are not in accordance with findings that suggest creativity benefits of schizophrenia-spectrum disorders.

Keywords: schizotypy, creativity, openness to experience

Abstract number: 19

ID number of submission: 34

## **Authentic dance movement: Connotative dimensions of meaning**

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## Abstract

Aim of this study was to investigate the connotative dimension of meaning of dance in the context of experience of the people who are dancing in festive or party occasions. There were 35 participants, students of the University of Novi Sad who did not have any training in dance. To measure the dimension of connotative meaning of dance participants rated their experience of dance on connotative differential which was given in the form of " semantic differential" and it consisted of 15 seven-point bipolar rating scales of opposite adjectives, 5 measuring cognitive (understandable, explainable, definite, clear and sensible), 5 measuring affective (pleasant, good, attractive, relaxing and favourable), and 5 measuring the conative dimensions of meaning (impressive, expressive, inspiring, active and interesting). The results show that cognitive dimension of meaning is rated with significantly lower values in comparing to emotive and conative dimension of meaning, which don't differ significantly. Also, results show that emotive and conative dimension of meaning of dance is rated with higher values by the female students than by the male students. The results of the study are discussed in the context of authentic dance movement. Dance is analyzed as a way of social interaction and a way of self-expression.

Keywords: dance, connotative dimension of meaning, students

## **Symposium: Mental health**

Abstract number: 20

ID number of submission: 84

## Student's mental health

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### Abstract

Some occurrences which have happened or are present now in our society such as wars behind us, economic crisis, family system devastation, non-functional school system, existential insecurity, inability to plan the future, loss of outer system of support and control, value system confusion have all contributed that ever increasing number of young people feels lost and hopeless, with very different and hard to predict consequences.

During its ten years existence, Psychological counseling for students of SKC Nis, has organized a lot of researches on the topic of mental health of youth, which were just the starting point towards building the consciousness about mental health and need to work on oneself. During the symposium works concerning the youth mental health will be shown with the goal to shed a light on some of the causes of psychological problems students are facing with, to present primary and secondary forms of prevention and ways to protect and upgrade mental health. It is expected that presenting the results of empirical researches as well as measures to take to preserve mental health will give the bigger picture of the problem students and other youth encounters and point to the possibilities of personal growth and development and improving of the general quality of life.

Keywords: mental health, students, counseling

Abstract number: 21

ID number of submission: 97

**Psychological counseling in service of protection and improvement of student's  
mental health by University of Niš**

*Jelena Jovanović*

Abstract

This paper offers a retrospection of the Psychological Counseling for Students on the University of Nis, as one of the largest and most permanent projects in the field of mental health of the young protection and improvement in the entire region. To begin with, this paper illustrates a broader significance of taking care of the mental state of an individual, followed by a confirmation of a need for an institutional care for prevention in the area of mental health. Adaptive changes and professional demands students face, combined with the burden of numerous social and psychic crises, stressful situations and contradictions of social and technological development, as well as the increase in the rate of psychological problems among the young, signal the necessity for the existence of a students' service that offers easy and effective psychological help. Services of the Counseling are completely free, and realized through three sectors: Counseling, Educational Sector and Scientific-Research Sector. Researches have shown the positive effects of such a manner of working with the students' population, which proved itself to be not only a very useful measure of primary prevention in the area of mental health, but also a leading form of offering psychological help in handling problems. Reports on the work of the Counseling show that there is the need for offering such a type of psychological services, that customers are satisfied with these services, and that there is a large degree in interest among students to attend educational activities of the Counseling that concern various aspects of mental health.

During its active research and counseling work, the project of Students' Counseling has proven its sense and necessity in increasing the quality of life the students of the University of Nis lead. Broadening the web of psychological counseling of this type in the region could contribute to a more comprehensive work in the field of protection and improvement of students' mental health and offer multiple positive effects in terms of continued and systematic care for mental health of the young on a global level.

Keywords: prevention, students, psychological counseling

Abstract number: 22

ID number of submission: 81

**Personality traits and rational and irrational beliefs as predictors of social anxiety among student population**

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## Abstract

The study focuses on personality traits and rational and irrational beliefs as predictors of Social anxiety, and the expressions of value differences according to basic variables with socio-demographic characteristics as the parameter.

The study includes the sample of 167 students of both sexes (76 men and 91 women), with differences in study level and their parents educational background. The applied instruments are Zuckerman - Kuhlman personality questionnaire (ZKPQ-50-CC, Aluja et al., 2006), Scale of Rational and Irrational beliefs (IRU -16, Tovilović & Popov, 2009) and Social anxiety scale (SA-2, Tovilović, 2004). The obtained results show that in the model of personality traits, three of five personality traits (Agression/Hostility, Sociability and Neuroticism/Anxiety) can with much certainty statistically predict Social anxiety: Agression/Hostility (-0.218,  $p < 0.01$ ), Sociability (-0.229,  $< 0.01$ ) i Neuroticism/Anxiety (0.447,  $< 0.01$ ). In the second model that includes personality traits and Rational and Irrational beliefs, a personality trait *Activity* can also with much certainty statistically predict Social anxiety (-0.153,  $< 0.05$ ), and so can Irrational beliefs (0.214,  $< 0.01$ ).

The results have shown that there is a statistically relevant difference between men and women in the degree of expression of the Social anxiety, Irrational beliefs and personality traits Activity, Impulsive sensation seeking and Neuroticism/Anxiety. Neuroticism/Anxiety and Irrational beliefs are more typical of women, whereas Activity and Impulsive sensation seeking are more typical of men. There is a statistically significant difference in the degree of Rational beliefs and Impulsive sensation seeking in students with different parent educational background. Rational beliefs are more perceptible in students with mothers on lower educational level, and Impulsive sensation seeking is more perceptible in students with mothers on higher educational level, PHD.

Keywords: personality traits, rational and irrational beliefs, social anxiety, students

Abstract number: 23

ID number of submission: 86

## **Correlation between family communication, family satisfaction and chaotic family relationships with the fear of negative evaluation and general self-satisfaction**

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## Abstract

The main goal of this research was to investigate correlation between family communication, family satisfaction and chaotic family relationships with the fear of negative evaluation and general self-satisfaction. The survey was conducted on a sample of Philosophy, Electronics, Medicine, Economics and Faculty of Occupational Safety students of the University of Nis. The sample included 441 people, 259 female students (58.7%) and 182 students (41.3%). The mean age was 20.9 years. The instruments which were used are the scale to measure family relations, FACES IV (Kouneski, 2002) and two scales taken from Bezinovic's scale for measuring self concept: the scale of negative self evaluation and the scale of general self satisfaction (Bezinovic, 1988). It has been founded that there is a statistically significant correlation between all dimensions of family interaction with aspects of self concept. Dimension fear of negative evaluation is positively correlated with the dimension chaotic family relationships ( $r=0.11$ ), while with the dimensions of family communication and family satisfaction there is negative correlation ( $r=-0.12$ ;  $r=-0.12$ ). Dimension general self-satisfaction is negatively correlated with dimension chaotic family relationships ( $r=-0.27$ ), while with the dimensions of family communication and family satisfaction there is positive correlation ( $r=0.38$ ;  $r=0.37$ ). Dimension fear of negative evaluation in the male subsample is only associated with the dimension chaotic family relationships ( $r=0.25$ ), while in the female subsample it is only correlated with the dimension of family communication ( $r=-0.13$ ). Dimension general self-satisfaction is correlated with all three dimensions of family relationships in both, male and female subsample. The results confirm the expectations of authors and general research hypothesis. Once again it is demonstrated the important role of family and family relations in the development of children's self concept.

Keywords: chaotic family relationships, family communication, family satisfaction, self-concept, students

Abstract number: 24

ID number of submission: 99

## **Application and effect of emoticons as assets nonverbal electronic communications, alienation and time perspective**

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## Abstract

The research was conducted in order to examine the alienation and difficulties in direct communication in the form of expression and recognition of emotions caused by the inappropriate use of emoticons during the electronic text communication. The research was conducted via an online questionnaire on the sample of 235 respondents of different gender and age structure. The frequency of use of text electronic communication and emoticons, as well as inadequate use of emoticons and difficulties in direct communication in expressing and recognizing emotions were researched with scales questionnaire created only for this research. Variable alienation is operationalized with score on Test of general alienation (Ray, 1982). Questionnaire Time perspective is researched with standardized Zimbardo's questionnaire (TPI, Zimbardo and Boyd, 1999). A clear relationship between the frequency and the improper use of emoticons with alienation and difficulties in direct communication was established by the description, correlation method, as well as by the analysis of variance, among other things. Based on this, it can be concluded that the inadequate use of means of electronic communication leads to alienation. The following assumption has also been confirmed: the use of electronic text communication does not cause alienation, but bringing people together, which is its primary purpose.

Keywords: emoticons, alienation, emotions, Internet, communication

## **Attachment, emotions and communication**

Abstract number: 25

ID number of submission: 36

### **Disorganized Attachment: or Transgenerational Trauma Transmission**

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## Abstract

A large number of studies conducted abroad, but also here, confirms the transgenerational attachment transmission. Despite unambiguous facts that the transmission occurs, the issue of mechanism of the transmission is still unsolved. Researchers offer different solutions: from sensitivity of a caregiver, to the reflexive function, mirroring, orientation to the mind of a child, to the role of genes.

The first study of transgenerational transmission of attachment in Serbia was conducted in 2001. It confirmed the expected transmission, but the transversal approach did not allow a deeper analysis. Fifteen years later, equipped with more advanced instruments and newer theoretical constructs, we have decided to approach the problem of the transgenerational transmission from the longitudinal perspective. Namely, mothers and children tested for the first time in 2001 were observed and retested in 2016. In the first study, we used: AAI, Main, Caplan, Cassidy, 1984 (for mothers), and AQS; Waters & Deane, 1985 (for children), while in the second study we had an opportunity to test both mothers and children with the same Serbian instrument for assessing attachment: UPIPAV, Hanak, 2004.

In this paper, we present the results of transgenerational observation of only one attachment pattern: disorganized attachment. The choice of the most troublesome pattern was conditioned by the fact that the transgenerational transmission of this pattern was the most expressed, and the dimension responsible for the transmission was the most obvious. Namely, the transgenerational transmission of both a negative internal working model of the self and a negative internal working model of others was recorded. The dimension that remained unchained across generations was Unprocessed trauma.

What remains is to ask whether this means that, if we experienced a traumatic event in childhood, we are still incapable to process it and to close negative emotions even decades later (even in decent living conditions)?

Keywords: transgenerational transmission, disorganized attachment, trauma

Abstract number: 26

ID number of submission: 116

## **Relations between attachment and maternal prenatal attachment, pregnant women with healthy and high-risk pregnancies**

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Emotional attachment mother to unborn baby represents prenatal attachment. Prenatal attachment can be seen as a precursor to the development of attachment mother to child. The

stability of the internal working model is responsible for the stability of the attachment organization during the life cycle, and it could be assumed that the organization mother's attachment to important others will be connected with mother's attachment to her representation as a parent unborn babies, as well as the quality and intensity of emotional attachment to it. The aim of the work was to examine the connection between the mothers attachment and the prenatal maternal attachment with two grup pregnant women, with healthy and high-risk pregnancies. The sample included 116 subjects (62 with high-risk pregnancies). To test the attachment was used a Serbian Version of Modified and Revised Experiences in Close Relationships Scale (SM–ECR–R) and for prenatal attachment Scale for the assessment of maternal prenatal attachment.

The results show that the dimensions of attachment are significant predictors for all three dimensions of prenatal attachment: Positive feelings and fantasies,  $R^2 = .16$ ,  $p = .00$ ; Differentiation and contact,  $R^2 = .13$ ,  $p = .00$ ; Responsibility and care,  $R^2 = .13$ ,  $p = .00$ ; while the avoiding represent only significant partial predictor (Beta =  $-.31$ ,  $p = .00$ ; Beta =  $-.38$ ,  $p = .00$ ; Beta =  $-.31$ ,  $p = .00$ ). When the attachment is seen as a pattern, significant differences on all three dimensions of prenatal attachment show that fearful pregnant women have lowest achievements, and achievements of secure women are highest. Differences in two groups of pregnant women show that the dimension Responsibility and care,  $F(1) = 8.72$ ;  $p = .00$ , is more pronounced in group with high-risk pregnancies.

Key words: attachment, prenatal attachment, pregnant women with healthy and high-risk pregnancies

Abstract number: 27

ID number of submission: 46

## **Connection Between Attachment Styles and Assertiveness and Self-handicapping Behaviour**

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Abstract



Based on the interaction between a child and its caregiver in childhood, the child forms an inner working model of itself and others, which can effect later life relation with people. The purpose of the research was affirming if dimesions of avoidance and anxiety are statistically significant predictors of assertive and self-handikapping behaviour and if there are statistically significant differences in the level of presence of these traits on the subsample of men and women. Dimensions of avoidance and anxeyty are operationalized using the score on subscales “avoidance” and “anxiety” in the Serbian adaptation of the SM-ECR-R test (Hanak & Dimitrijević, 2013). Asertiveness is operationalized using score on A scale (Tovilović, Okanović & Krstić, 2009). Self-handicapping behaviour is operationalized using scores on subscales (outer and inner) of the SH questionare (Mitrović, Smederevac & Čolović, 2010). A convenience sample was used and it was made from 364 students from the University of Nish, of which there were 141 (38,7%) male and 223 (61,3%) female students, aging from 19 to 25 years of age (M=21,12). Results of the *u*-test have shown that dimensions: anxiety, avoidance, outer and inner handicaps in interpersonal relations and outer handicaps in achievement situations are significantly more present in male population. Using hierarchy regression analyze it was confirmed that that we can predict: *assertiveness* based on avoidance (beta=-.15) and anxiety (beta=-.37); *outter handicaps in interpersonal realtions* based on anxiety (beta=.42), avoidance was not a significant predictor; *inner handicaps in interpersonal relations* based on anxiety (beta=.57) and avoidance (beta=.11); *inner handicaps in achievenment situations* based on anxiety (beta=.35), avoidance was not a significant predictor; *outer handicaps in achievement situations* based on anxiety (beta=.54), avoidance was not a significant predictor. The contribution of research reflected in confirm of the existing theoretical assumptions, with the exception of avoidance as predictive function.

Keywords: avoidance and anxiety, assertiveness, self-handicapping behavior

Abstract number: 28

ID number of submission: 52

## **Relations Between Sexual Behavior and Self-concept in the Context of Lee Love Theory**

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*University of Niš*

## Abstract

Large body of scientific research indicating the importance of sexuality, preferences for certain sexual activities and propensity, depending on Lee love styles, but relations with dimensions of self-concept are relative uninvestigated. Dimensions of sexual behavior comprises different and relative aspects of the behavior (cognitive, emotional and socio-cultural), while the dimensions of self-concept integrated in this concept as an integral part of the attitudes of individuals and operationalized through the six scales. The aim of this article was to examine the structure and intensity of relations between dimensions of sexual behavior and dimensions of self-concept, in the context of Lee love theory. The sample included 237 participants (m - 71; f - 166), age from 18 to 31 (M=22,68). Dimensions of sexual behavior were measured using the Sexual Behavior Questionnaire (Dinić and Knežević, 2008), self-concept was measured using the six scales of self-concept (Bezinović, 1988), and love styles were measured using LAS Scale (Hendrick and Hendrick, 1986). The results discuss in the context of the existing theoretical context. It found that the self-concept was a significant predictor of all love styles dimensions, while sexual behavior significantly predict styles Eros, Ludus, Storge, and Mania. Dimensions of sexual behavior are not significant self-concept predictor, while love styles are significant predictor for all self-concept dimensions. Gender differences show that man tend to have casual sex, sexual fantasies, richness of sexual experience more than woman and have higher scores on Agape and Storge styles, while the women were more oriented on perceive themselves as incompetent. Hence, expected correlation between dimensions of self-concept and sexual behavior on one hand, and love styles from the other side, is confirmed, as well as prediction function of all dimensions, but some assumptions based on previous studies and theoretical view have not confirmed completely.

Keywords: sexual behavior, love styles, self-concept

Abstract number: 29

ID number of submission: 56

## **Emotional communication between the people in XXI century -psychodynamic aspect**

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## Abstract

In this theoretical paper we shall try to think about the quality of emotional communication between the people in 21st century on the global level. The theoretical basis of this paper is psychodynamic, that means that we consider and analyze the emotional functioning of the people in terms of psychoanalytic theory and neo analytic oriented approaches. The impression is that today's culture is quite narcissistically oriented, and that society, groups and individuals are in some kind of regression, which produces consequences in terms of emotional functioning .Thus, there is less empathy and more cruelty and loneliness. If a person treats another person as an object, ignoring one`s thoughts and feelings, the person makes one of the worst things to another human being. Empathy is when our attention ceases to be focused in one direction and instead becomes two-way directed. When we think only about ourselves and our well-being, our empathy is focused in one direction, and when we think about other people, "as if" we turned on two spotlights, where one casts light on us and the second onto another person. Basically, everything is in interaction and communication. Without it there is no survival nor constructive resolution of conflict. Our emotions should lead us to good solutions but only on condition that we: recognize them, become aware of them, deal with them, control them, if needed, suppress to an extent if necessary, develop them and use for creative purposes for us and the world around us. So, our view is that people in this globalized World, which is one large group, need some kind of psychological and psychotherapeutic support on a wider level. The role of psychotherapy in dealing with human emotions is precisely in helping the man to reestablish a relationship with himself, with his own emotions that will enable him to make further contacts with other human beings, with the groups where he will belong, with the world.

Keywords: emotions,communication,psychodynamics, narcissism, psychotherapy

Abstract number: 30

ID number of submission: 49

### **Accuracy of recognition of basic emotions and empathy**

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*University of Niš*

Abstract

The main goal of this study was to examine the correlation between emotional and cognitive empathy and accuracy of recognition of basic emotions. The survey was conducted on a sample of 120 adolescents age 16-17 years, (50% man, 50% woman). Emotional and cognitive empathy were measured by Interpersonal Reactivity Index (IRI, Davis, 1983). Cronbach's alpha for IRI was .798. The implemented instruments also included a test of recognizing emotions according to facial expressions (Japanese and Caucasian Facial Expressions of Emotion, JACFEE) in a duration of 10 seconds for each photo. The test is used for examining the accuracy of detecting emotions of anger, fear, sadness, disgust, contempt, surprise and happiness according to facial expressions, and it's was 0.725. The results showed a statistically significant correlation between cognitive empathy and accuracy of recognition of happiness, surprise, fear, disgust, sadness and contempt in range from  $r = .149$  to  $r = .281$ . We also found a statistically significant positive correlations in range from  $r = .245$  to  $r = .307$  between emotional empathy and accuracy of identification of emotions, happiness, surprise, disgust, sadness and contempt. A multiple regression analysis was conducted with the aim of studying the effects of emotional and cognitive empathy on the accuracy of perceiving emotions. The coefficient of determination was 23%. Results showed that independent contribution of emotional empathy for explanation of the criteria was bigger than contribution of cognitive empathy. Adolescents who understand feelings, behaviors and thoughts of others, are more able to recognize their emotions based on facial expressions. Also, adolescents who have disposition to answer with the same or similar emotions to emotional experiences of another person recognize emotions by facial expressions more accurate.

Keywords: emotion, facial expressions, empathy

Abstract number: 31

ID number of submission: 82

## **Early maladaptive schemas and facial emotions recognition among the psychology students**

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*University of Niš*

## Abstract

Different developmental experiences as a ground of personal beliefs regarding oneself, one's relationship with others and the world may contribute to social-emotional competence, which may specifically affect the way we perceive and interpret signals from facial expressions of other persons. The aim of this study was to examine the relationship between Early maladaptive schemas (EMS) and the recognition of facial expression of emotions, i.e. the predictive role of EMS for accuracy in the recognition of facial expression of emotions in general, as well as of particular emotions (anger, contempt, disgust, fear, happiness, sadness, and surprise) and neutral faces. The sample consisted of 145 first and third-year psychology students from Faculty of Philosophy in Niš. The stimuli for recognition of facial expression of emotions included photos of Matsumoto and Ekman's JACFEE and JACNeuF test (1988), while Early maladaptive schemas were assessed by a short version of Young's schema questionnaire (YSQ-S3, Young, 2005). It was found that EMS have a significant part in cumulative variance percentage of accuracy in recognition of facial expressions of emotions in general and of neutral faces, as well as in distinguishing between neutral and faces with emotional expression. EMS have distinguished as significant predictors for accuracy in recognizing emotions linked to rejection (anger, contempt and disgust), as well as for facial expression of happiness, but not for accuracy in recognition of the facial expressions of sadness, fear and surprise. The obtained results may contribute to a better understanding and expanding of current findings about the relationship between developmental experiences, and according to them the established patterns used for the assessment, organization and interpretation of stimuli and the ability to recognize and interpret facial expressions of emotions. The results are discussed in accordance to the theoretical background and previous findings, but also open certain questions for further examination.

Keywords: early maladaptive schemas, facial emotions expression, facial emotions recognition, students

## **Clinical Psychology**

Abstract number: 32

ID number of submission: 62

**Psychology and especially applied psychology should, in the future, rely heavily on genetics**

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Abstract

Taking into consideration the sudden and fast development of genetic tests and methods within the realm of genetics, it is easy to conclude that in the near future psychologists (especially psychologist who work within the realm of applied psychology) should know some things about genetics in order for them to get their work done correctly. In this sense the ability of next generation genetic sequencing, which provides with the power to discover the individual traits of each person, is particularly exciting. In that sense in developed countries genetic tests that are crucial for determining ones psychological processes and traits (such as mental health and mental illnesses), developmental disorders, problems with learning, social issues and characteristics and emotional problems and health, had started being used a long time ago. Psychology is a mixture of natural and social sciences. In order to understand psychology it is needed to know how the internal organs associated with the brain function (the organs responsible for hormone production). Genetics is becoming more and more necessary in understanding the function of these organs.

Not just that applied psychology is the use of psychological methods and findings of scientific psychology to solve practical problems of human and experience. Mental health, organizational psychology, business management, education, health, product design, ergonomics, and law are just a few of the areas that have been influenced by the application of psychological principles and findings. For understanding these issues genetics is becoming ever more important. Due to new discoveries in the field of genetics (not just tests and methods of analyzing), psychologists now have the opportunity to examine and determine someones state just by looking at their family history (medical history). By analyzing the history of a family, psychologists have the opportunity to determine what are the psychological profiles and characteristics of family members, all of this is done by monitoring which genes “flow ” through the family.

Keywords: genetics, psychology, family, history, psychologists

Abstract number: 33

ID number of submission: 63

### **Genetic tests for autism**

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#### **Abstract**

Autism is a pervasive developmental disorder with an increasing incidence, which nowadays corresponds to one or two cases per 1000 persons, and approximately six cases per 1000 persons across the autism spectrum. Consequently, the United Nations declared April 2nd as World Autism Awareness Day in order to highlight the need for suggesting possible solutions

to this disconcerting issue. Autism is a very complex brain development disorder characterized by either poor or nonexistent social interaction and communication, as well as by restricted and repetitive patterns of behaviour.

The etiology of autism is extremely complex. Various etiological factors have been suggested, from genetic to environmental ones. However, regardless of its complex etiology, should one dive deeper, at a molecular level one can easily discern the genetic basis of autism. Considering the complex genetic control of brain development, especially that of the cerebrum, it follows that autism genetics is a very complex issue, and that a large number of different genes underlie the occurrence of autism and/or autistic spectrum disorders. As a result, analyses and practical applications of genetic tests have been impeded. The use of so-called targeted genetic tests was not possible. However, the hopes were raised by technological advancements in the field of experimental genetics, especially by the advent of a new generation of DNA sequencing, which allows for simultaneous analyses of a large number of genes. Very soon after the aforementioned step forward, genetic tests for autism and certain autistic spectrum disorders were used for commercial purposes. Thus, a new generation of DNA sequencing enabled the development of genetic tests for autism and autistic spectrum disorders, which implied simultaneous analyses of a large number of genes, or a set of genes (gene panel). Along these lines, there should also be an autism gene panel.

Keywords: autism, gene, test, DNA, sequencing

Abstract number: 34

ID number of submission: 73

## **Biographic-Narrative Interpretive Method (BNIM). Potential application in research of addictive disorders**

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### Abstract

The purpose of this article is to present the biographical narrative-interpretive method (BNIM) (Wengraf, 2001, 2016) in the field of study of addictions. This qualitative approach to research integrates information about individual functioning in historical, psycho-social and

biographical plan. In the area of treatment and rehabilitation of addictions often appears as a need to use a method that is interested in uncovering more meaning about experiences of people with addiction problems. This text is focused on method and its development, and also presents some more data about its use in Bulgaria especially in research of addictive disorders. BNIM technique of interviewing involve „single question aimed at inducing narrative” (SQUIN) (Wengraf, 2001, 2016), which has the power to produce spontaneous emergence of narrative and give the researcher framework for interpretation of the individual life history.

Keywords: Biographic-Narrative Interpretive Method, life story, interviewing, addiction

Abstract number: 35

ID number of submission: 80

### **Potentials and limitations of Mahover test as discriminative tool for identification of situationally related depressive adaptations of personality**

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Abstract

Vojvodina and generally saying flat plain region is known for its bad statistics when it comes to depression and suicide prevalence.



Psychology studies have aimed to answer to this question mostly from the position of quantitative analysis, namely correlation and factor analysis studies. This study have as a goal to add new perspective to interpretive corpus of knowledge about why such conditions of living are perceived as provocative in terms of mental health status. Two groups of interviewees have been participants in the study. One group is made out of 10 locals of the town Vrljaci, and the other group consist of 10 participants, not permanent residents that are just currently living and working in the same town. All off them are excluded for any clinically significant acute or chronic disturbances prior to testing with Mahover drawing test and following interview. The instruction for the participants was to draw the flat plain as a person, and describe its personality in the manner of projective testing. The findings of the research suggest that even though projective technic the strong cognitive influence of the dominant "story about depressive influence of flat plain" known by all participants is evident. The discrimination between residents and nonresidents could not be recognized by applying only Mahover test. In addition, their drawing that will be presented in this work shows elements of depressive tendencies in both groups after conducted interpretative analysis by two independent analysts. This study also highlighted the importance of debriefing with participants after their participation in a qualitative study on an intimate topics.

Keywords: qualitative methods in psychology, interpretative analysis, clinical differentiation

Abstract number: 36

ID number of submission: 87

## **Narcissism and self-esteem as predictors of depression**

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Abstract

The aim of this study was to determine whether narcissism and self-esteem emerge as predictors of depression. Self-esteem is defined as one's cognitive perception of self as a valuable and worthy person. According to Coopersmith, self-esteem is an evaluative aspect of the self-concept and it could refer to different domains (such as physical appearance, social situations and intellectual abilities). Young and Pinsky define narcissism as a personality trait which is composed of seven sub-dimensions: authority, exhibitionism, superiority, entitlement, exploitativeness, vanity and self-sufficiency. Although narcissism is generally conceived of as excessive self-love, Young and Pinsky suggest that a certain amount of self-love is desired. In Beck's Cognitive Theory of depression, negative cognitions about self, future and the world are considered the most important factor in depression. Beck's main argument was that depression was instituted by one's view of oneself, instead of one having a negative view of oneself due to depression. Depression, narcissism and self-esteem were assessed using Beck's Depression Inventory – BDI, Narcissistic Personality Inventory – NPI-40 and State Self-Esteem Scale – SSES. The convenient sample consisted of 222 students, 191 (86%) female and 31 (14%) male. The results indicate that model explains 45.4% of variance ( $R^2=.454$ ,  $p<.01$ ), but none of the dimensions of narcissism emerged as statistically significant predictor of depression. All of the dimensions of self-esteem were proven to be statistically significant negative predictors of depression. Performance self-esteem explains 27.6% ( $\beta=-.276$ ,  $p<.01$ ), social self-esteem 19.1% ( $\beta=-.191$ ,  $p<.01$ ), and appearance self-esteem 32.7% of variance ( $\beta=-.327$ ,  $p<.01$ ). Some of the dimensions of narcissism correlated with depression: self-sufficiency ( $-.259$ ,  $p<.01$ ), superiority ( $-.166$ ,  $p<.05$ ), vanity ( $-.273$ ,  $p<.01$ ) and entitlement ( $.219$ ,  $p<.01$ ). The results are in accordance with previous studies: significant proportion of variance of depression is explained by self-esteem. This findings confirm that cognition, especially negative thoughts of self have important role in the occurrence of depression.

Keywords: narcissism, self-esteem, depression, students

Abstract number: 37

ID number of submission: 4

## Expressing anxiety and depression with people suffering from schizophrenia

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Abstract

This work displays survey aimed at researching anxiety and depression with people suffering from schizophrenia and with non-clinical population as well as the relation between anxiety and depression. Survey was conducted on a sample of 100 respondents, gender balanced and balanced by clinical or non-clinical determinant, aged between 18 and 65. Condition-trait (STAI) anxiety questionnaire and Beck's depression questionnaire (BDI) were applied. The differences were examined by using t-test and ANOVA, and the correlations were examined by Pearson's correlation ratio. The results show that there are statistically significant differences in terms of the strength of Anxiety as a condition ( $t(98) = 5,332, p < 0,001$ ), Anxiety as a trait ( $t(98) = 8,696, p < 0,001$ ) and Depression ( $t(98) = 12,446, p < 0,001$ ) between the people with schizophrenia and clinical subsample. Significant and positive relation of the dimensions of anxiety and depression with both subsamples was determined. Statistically significant low positive relation of the dimension of Anxiety as a trait and age of the people with Schizophrenia was found ( $r = 0,306, p < 0,05$ ). There are significant differences in strengths of Anxiety as a trait ( $F(49) = 3,766, p < 0,05$ ) considering marital status of the people with schizophrenia as well as important differences in strengths of the dimension of Anxiety as a trait ( $F(49) = 4,253, p < 0,05$ ) considering the place of residence of non-clinical respondents. The results are in accordance with the research of dimensions relation of anxiety and depression and in line with the initial assumptions.

Keywords: anxiety, depression, people with schizophrenia, non-clinical subsample

## **Education Psychology**

Abstract number: 38

ID number of submission: 8

### **Self-efficacy, self-silencing and stress management strategies for teachers**

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Abstract

Teachers' social and pedagogical environment at the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century is highly dynamic and it frequently causes stress. The paper examines a relationship between self-efficacy, self-silencing and stress management strategies of teachers from the standpoint of the Transactional Model of Stress and Coping. The research comprised 185 teachers (preschool teachers, classroom teachers and subject teachers from primary and secondary schools) from the municipality of Pirot who answered the following questionnaires: the General Self-Efficacy Scale - GSES (Schwarzer and Jerusalem), the Silencing the Self Scale (Jack), Coping Inventory for Stressful Situations Scale (Endler & Parker). The reliability coefficients (Cronbach Alpha) for the aforementioned scales are as follows: SGSE – 0,81; SSS and CISS – 0,89. The results show that there are no statistically significant differences among the respondents working at different educational cycles (preschool teachers, classroom teachers, subject teachers from primary schools, and classroom teachers from secondary schools) regarding self-efficacy, while the self-silencing dimension is more expressed in classroom teachers than in teachers from other subsamples ( $F=3,401$ ,  $p<0,05$ ). Likewise, the emotion-focused stress management strategy was more expressed among classroom teachers than in teachers from other subsamples ( $F=3,263$ ,  $p<0,05$ ). Taking into account the whole sample, it was found statistically significant positive correlation between the self-efficacy level and problem-focused stress management strategies ( $r=0,373$ ,  $p<0,05$ ), as well as statistically significant positive correlation between the self-silencing level and stress management strategies focused on emotions ( $r=0,614$ ,  $p<0,01$ ) and avoidance ( $r=0,293$ ,  $p<0,01$ ). The research results could contribute to better understanding of stress management strategies among teachers and to development of programs and techniques of an effective stress prevention and management in other (helping) professions as well.

Keywords: self-efficacy, self-silencing, stress management strategies, teachers

Abstract number: 39

ID number of submission: 18

## **Bullying prevention and intervention action of the school – ranges and limitations**

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Abstract

Bullying is an important problem of existing school practice which requires timely and appropriate preventive and interventive action, because of the seriousness of the consequences it can cause. As bullying we consider repeated aggressive behavior of physical, verbal and relational nature by individuals who have more power within the peer group and knowingly abuse their power for the sake of injuring a person who is unable to counter, where the victim did nothing to provoke bullying behavior. School, as educational institution in which children spend a significant portion of their time, provides many opportunities for preventive and interventive action aimed to reduce the incidence of bullying. We define *prevention* of bullying in school as a process by which school as an institution implements a series of measures and activities that seek to create favorable conditions for the development of all students. *Intervention* will be defined as the process by which school seeks to influence on the students who are at risk of or have already expressed bullying behavior or victimization. Starting from the perspective of the ecosystem approach to the interpretation of origin and maintenance of bullying behavior/victimization of students, we will try to point out to the possibilities of preventive and interventional influence on various social-ecological levels within the school context. Greater attention in the paper will be given to the effort to realistically examine the role that school, as only one of the contexts of social influence on the child, has in the process of prevention and intervention. We will try to highlight the realistic expectations in regard of preventive and interventive action of the school, to point out to the difficulties which can be found in school practice and the necessary conditions for successful work of school in reducing bullying and victimization.

Keywords: school, bullying, prevention, intervention

Abstract number: 40

ID number of submission: 32

## **Competitiveness and empathy of primary school and kindergarten teachers**

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Abstract

Defined as a tendency towards self-evaluation through comparisons with others, associated with negative attitudes towards others and feelings of hostility and inferiority, competitiveness represents an important source of competitive behaviour. Despite the fact that competitive behaviour can slow down the development of empathy as an important driver of pro-social behaviour, competitiveness and competitive behaviour are being fostered in contemporary education. Starting from the importance of empathy in the context of developing professional competencies of primary school and kindergarten teachers and the belief that competitiveness can influence the preferences of primary school and kindergarten teachers in their educational work, this study was aimed at examining empathy and competitiveness of primary school and kindergarten teachers and to compare competitive and non-competitive teachers in relation to the extent of their empathy. The research sample consisted of 65 primary school and 78 kindergarten teachers (N=143) employed in primary schools and preschool institutions in different towns in Serbia. Empathetic competencies of teachers were measured by questionnaire EMI (Genc, Mitrovic and Colovic, 2009) which examines four aspects of empathy: empathy with negative emotions of others, empathy with positive emotions of others, empathy as a social role and emotional reactions caused by empathy. For the purposes of this research, competitiveness was assessed using a modified The Competitiveness Test (Houston and Smither, 2010). The obtained results indicate that primary school and kindergarten teachers have developed enough their empathetic competencies in all of the examined domains. Also, they differ in relation to competitiveness ( $F=1.146$ ;  $p<0.001$ ) but only in empathizing with negative emotions of others: competitive teachers show higher scores than non-competitive primary school and kindergarten teachers. The results indicate a necessity of re-evaluating attitudes about the importance of encouraging competitiveness during the development of personality and in the context of educational work.

Keywords: competitiveness, empathy, professional competencies in education primary school and kindergarten teachers

Abstract number: 41

ID number of submission: 44

## **The efficacy of the enhanced skill program using yoga and gita classes help in improving and emotional learning in india by the idea of swami vivekananda**

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Abstract

The aim of the current study was to investigate the effects of the gita and yoga classes on children of class 10 and 12 of RK Mission school children social and emotional learning by using yoga, Gita classes skills. It is a school based program that is done in RK mission school in India and is implemented by class teachers as part of school curricula and was done to see the effect of

prevention of depression and anxiety. The study comprised a total of 100 students all male from the class 10 and 12 students from RK Mission primary schools in India. Students were assessed on two sub scales of emotional attribution at school while the parents reported on their children externalizing and internalizing problems outside of school and at home.

Two analyses were conducted: seven intervention schools were assessed at pre- and post-test (Analysis 1) and pre-post change in three intervention schools were compared to pre-post change in three matched control schools (Analysis 2).

Results from Analysis 1 showed that the intervention children had increased in their overall emotional attribution accuracy and decreased in total difficulties and hyperactivity. Results from Analysis 2 revealed no intervention effect on emotional attribution accuracy or internalizing or externalizing problems.

These findings suggest that the enhanced Effect of Gita classes and yoga effects on SEL were evident in the short-term period after intervention. The significant findings and future directions for yoga and Gita class research and program modification were discussed.

Keywords: yoga, emotional learning , gitta classes

Abstract number: 42

ID number of submission: 65

### **Learning theories aimed at creating and applying didactic innovations**

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*Psychology, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Nis\*\**, *Department of Pedagogy, Faculty of*  
*Philosophy, University of Belgrade\*\*\**

Abstract

The aim of this paper is to present the scientific community with our own positive experience gained during the teaching practice, from the perspective of a dialectic relationship

between psychological and pedagogical sciences, and their specific disciplines (pedagogical psychology, didactics, educational technology) with the aim of providing suggestions for modernizing and improving the learning and teaching process to a higher level. In this respect, the article is divided into two parts. In the first part, the emphasis will be put on the relevant psychological theories and their representatives (Skinner, Crowder, Vigotsky, Wertheimer, Mayer), which influenced the initiation of the new concepts of didactic theories, innovations and teaching strategies. Based on this, we have created an innovative didactic model, the essence of which can be seen in the act of integrating different teaching and learning models into educational software, made in order to individualize the teaching and learning process. The second part displays the positive experience acquired in the teaching practice, during the realization of two empirically verified didactic experiments in which the interviewees of the experimental groups achieved significantly better results in several areas (knowledge quantity and quality, the quantity of the acquired concepts, the raised level of acceleration in learning, general success in mastering a subject) than the interviewees of the controlled groups. In the conclusion, the direct positive influence and contribution of the psychological theories of learning, in a successful combination with the achievements of modern educational technology, are confirmed, and further suggestions for a more intensive application of their scientific findings are provided, with an aim of modernizing and effectively realizing the necessary need for a reform of the educational system in Serbia.

Keywords: learning theories, pedagogical psychology, teaching models, educational software, didactic innovations

Abstract number: 43

ID number of submission: 72

### **Assessment of teacher's capacity to work with the children from low-stimulated families**

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Abstract

Many research results showed that children from families with low socioeconomic status are at increased risk from lower cognitive and socio-emotional outcomes. As preschool system plays an important role in early stimulation and prevention of these negative effects, the question



that arises is how the preschool teachers perceive their motivation and competence to work with children who has this kind of experience.

To answer that question, 390 teachers from preschool institutions in Vojvodina were asked to participate in this research.

For the purposes of this research an instrument for evaluation of capacities for working with children from risk groups was constructed, in which there were used vignettes with descriptions of children from low-stimulated families. The results indicated that there was a significant correlation between teacher's competence and motivation for work assessment ( $r=0.65$ ,  $p<0.01$ ). Motivation for work was also significantly correlated with assessment of quality of the working conditions ( $r=0.55$ ,  $p<0.01$ ), as well as with assessment of the adequacy of the number of children in the group ( $r=0.37$ ,  $p<0.01$ ). The assessment of the contribution of the basic education to capacities for work with children from this group has an significant effect on their competence assessment ( $\beta=0.23$ ,  $p<0.05$ ). Furthermore, the results indicated that respondents that have underwent through training seminars for work with children from risk groups show a higher sense of competence in comparison to the ones who did not ( $t=2.22$ ,  $p<0.05$ ). The obtained results suggest that the basic education and training seminars are significant predictors of the teacher's feeling of competence and motivation to work with the children from at-risk groups. These results are emphasizing the importance of teachers' education in improving child care in preschool system.

Keywords: preschool teachers, competence, motivation, children from low-stimulated families

## **Symposium: The challenges of foster care and its varieties through the prism of the best interests of the child**

Abstract number: 44

ID number of submission: -

### **Foster care in Serbia – the last deced**

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*Center for foster care and adoption*  
*Niš, Serbia*

## Abstract

Foster care in Serbia over the last decade is intensively and rapidly developing. The process of deinstitutionalisation (closing homes for children without parental care) is implemented gradually and systematically, so that now foster care predominates compared to residential care – in foster families there is 88% of the children that are protected with placement outside biological family. Family placement is recognized as a less restrictive environment in relation to the institutional accommodation. Most of the professional public does not prejudice the profit from foster care. The experience of foster care gives a child the opportunity to experience family life in a positive way.

If we compare the development of foster care in Serbia in relation to the environment, Europe, and beyond, we can come to the conclusion that significant results have been achieved, which are reflected in the high standard of services provided.

In the Republic of Serbia the number of foster families is continuously growing, thus the number of children in foster accommodation now amounts to about 6,000. Great attention is paid to the assessment, continuing education and support to foster families. Evident positive changes in the structure of foster families in terms of education, age, lifestyle and the environment in which they live. The network of foster families has been extended to the whole territory of the country, which is the basis for further progress in the quality of child protection.

Keywords: foster care, family placement, changes, last decade

Abstract number: 45

ID number of submission: -

## **The challenges of foster care and its varieties through the prism of the best interests of the child**

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*Niš, Serbia*

## Abstract

The legislative framework in which our country rests in child protection clearly emphasizes foster care as the preferred form of care for children without parental care, but also recognizes different forms of fostering starting from understanding the needs and specificities of each child

in relation to its characteristics and life experiences. Forms of fostering that we will discuss are: urgent foster care, kinship foster care and short break foster care.

Emergency foster care is a special form of foster care. It is used as a form of social protection in situations when the Center for Social Work assess that the child's safety is at risk and that it is necessary for the child to be promptly separated from their biological families or the environment in which they are currently located.

Some children and young people with disabilities who live in biological families due to various circumstances do not receive an adequate response to their needs and are at risk of separation from the family. In order to prevent the separation of children and young people with disabilities from their biological families, it is essential to support them and their families in accordance with their needs. Short break foster care is recognized as one of the best ways to achieve this goal.

Keywords: foster care, children, family, protection

Abstract number: 46

ID number of submission: -

## **Kindship care – benefits and challenges**

*Olga Tomić*

*Center for foster care and adoption, Niš*

Abstract

In recent years in Serbia, the process of deinstitutionalization has been accelerated, which resulted in the development of foster care. Kinship foster care has been secluded as a special form of foster cere. Kinship foster care means that the tendance of the child without parental care take relatives, which certainly has its benefits, especially when it comes to the reinforcing child's

personal and family identity and sense of continuity in life. Experience (as well as research) in working with kinship foster families show that children can more easily adapt to life into them familiar kinship, and also that the "disruption" of the former way of life of the child is minimal. However, there are significant challenges in working with these families. On the evidence of kinship foster families CPSU - Niš, the first-line relatives (grandparents) are dominant. This often involves further transfer of dysfunctional patterns, which ultimately have resulted in the abandonment of children by their parents. There are also significant generation differences, and lack of mutual understanding between the children and their foster parents. Setting boundaries and avoiding rigid or overprotecting attitude towards children, are some of the topics that are presented in the work with kinship foster families. There is also a common burden concerning family history (losses) both for foster parents and the child. Standard family are pre-assessed, prepared and trained for the acceptance of the child, while the kinship foster families get included in training usually while passing through the period of family crisis and are unprepared to act in a situation that occurred.

In this presentation, it is planned to review the existing research of kinship foster care, and also the experience of workers in social care system, as well as practical examples that speak about the benefits and risks of the above mentioned form of child protection.

Keywords: kinship care, benefits, challenges

Abstract number: 47

ID number of submission: -

## **Competences for foster care**

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Abstract

The first competency refers to the knowledge and skills of foster families to provide a safe and supportive environment for the child, foster parents skills to protect the child from abuse and neglect, as well as providing support to the child who had experienced neglect and abuse.

In the context of other competencies, foster parents are trained to understand the reasons why children in foster care have certain delays, to understand their needs and develop the skills of meeting the needs of children who have had experience neglect or traumatic experiences.

A child who comes into foster care as any other child has a past, history, family, personal, national and cultural identity. It is necessary for foster parents to acquire knowledge and skills necessary to help the child to understand his past and embrace and support it in preserving and nurturing identity.

All children in foster care have suffered more separation (separation from close persons) and the loss of close people, making the emotional bonding or adaptation and acceptance of new family and new people difficult to them. Foster parents need to understand and recognize the feelings of these children, as well as their behavior as a result of previous experiences and develop the skills to adequately respond to the needs of the child and support him in overcoming the emotional stalemate.

The development and progress of the child in foster care is not only the responsibility of breadwinner. Regardless the child in foster care is not raised by parents and relatives, they remain important actors in planning permanence for the child. In addition to the foster parents, who take direct care of the child, social protection specialists are responsible for planning the protection of the child in accordance with his best interests, a center for social work, often in the role of the legal guardian of the child. These facts point the need and obligation of foster parents to accomplish their role in cooperation with all persons responsible for the child's development.

Keywords: foster care, competences, environment

## **Individual Differences**

Abstract number: 48

ID number of submission: 77

### **Personal characteristics, visual merchandising and impulsive buying**

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Abstract

Impulsive buying has been defined as a spontaneous, immediate purchase without pre-shopping intentions either to buy a specific product category or to fulfill a specific buying task. The aim of this study was to examine the influence of dimensions of five-factor personality model and visual merchandising on impulsive buying tendency. Additionally, the aim was also to examine the differences of impulsive buying tendency based on gender, age, level of education, material circumstances and place of residence.

The research included 379 respondents (77.6% female, 22.4% male) aged 18 to 68 ( $M=29.46$ ,  $SD=12.14$ ). We used Impulsive Buying Tendency Scale (Verplanken & Herabadi, 2001), the Big Five Questionnaire (John, Donahue & Kentle, 1991), the Visual Merchandising Questionnaire (Kim, 1991) and the Socio-Demographic Questionnaire constructed for this research.

The results of hierarchical regression analysis showed that the dimensions of the five-factor personality model, included in the first step, explained 9.7% of the variance of impulsive buying tendency. After entering the visual merchandising in the following phase, the model as a whole explained the 31.6% of the total variance of impulsive buying tendency ( $F(9,349)=17.95$ ,  $p<0.001$ ). Visual merchandising explained additional 21.9% of impulsive buying tendency variance. In the final model, significant partial contribution to the explanation of impulsive buying tendency was given by extroversion, conscientiousness, window display and in-store design. The results also indicate a statistically significant difference in impulsive buying tendency based on gender ( $U=8689.00$ ,  $p<0.001$ ), age ( $F(2,360)=3.0$ ,  $p<0.05$ ,  $\eta^2=.02$ ), material status ( $F(2,361)=4.9$ ,  $p<0.01$ ,  $\eta^2=.03$ ) and given the place of residence ( $F(2,361)=3.5$ ,  $p<0.05$ ,  $\eta^2=.02$ ); whereby women, people aged 18 to 35, the persons of the above-average material status and the persons living in the city are most prone to impulsive buying.

Acquired results are pointing to conclusion that impulsive buying is based on visual merchandising to a greater extent than on personal characteristics.

Keywords: impulsive buying, dimensions of five-factor personality model, visual merchandising, socio-demographic characteristics

Abstract number: 49

ID number of submission: 88

## **Personality traits as predictors of readiness for change of employees in primary education**

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Abstract

Readiness for change, flexible use of knowledge and creativity are the most important competencies of people in modern organizations. The individual readiness for change is defined as a factor of professional success of employees and job satisfaction. The aim of this study is to determine which dimensions from the Big Five model represent significant predictors of readiness for change of employees in primary education. The sample consisted of 350 teachers and principals from primary schools in Loznica (70% of female examinees). Readiness for change was investigated by Readiness for change scale (Grubić-Nešić, 2005), consisting of 20 items, adapted to the testing in education context. Factor analysis distinguished the three factors that explain about 43% of variance: readiness for searching for new solutions, readiness for changing the present status and readiness for challenges. Personality dimensions were measured by The Big Five Inventory (BFI, John Donahue & Kent, 1991) in form of the Likert scale, consisting of 44 items. Categorical variables: gender, workplace and length of working experience were included, too. Hierarchical multiple regression analysis was applied. Categorical variables constitute the first block of predictors, whereas personality traits constitute the second one. Categorical variables represent significant predictors of readiness for changing the present status only, while personality dimensions represent significant predictors of all three examined factors. Partial contributions of dimensions: openness to experience, conscientiousness and extraversion are significant, too. Neuroticism has significant but negative impact on readiness for change. The research results could be useful in the selection of human resources in primary education.

Keywords: personality traits, readiness for change, motivation of employees, primary education

Abstract number: 50

ID number of submission: 90

### **Personality traits and Empathy as predictors of Humor Styles on high school students sample**

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Abstract

The aim of this research was to check to what extent different humor styles of high school students can be predicted by personality traits and empathy. According to Rod Martin there are four humor styles: Affiliative humor (focused on improving relations with other people), Self-enhancing humor (focused on achieving personal welfare but not at the expense of others), Aggressive humor (aimed at achieving personal welfare but at the expense of others), and Self-defeating humor (focused on improving interpersonal relations but at the expense of one's personal welfare). They were measured using Humor Styles Questionnaire (HSQ: Martin et al., 2003). Personality traits: Neuroticism, Extraversion, Openness to experience, Aggressiveness, Conscientiousness, Positive valence and Negative valence were measured using questionnaire Big Five Plus Two (Smederevac, Mitrovic, Colovic, 2010). Empathy is conceptualized as a multidimensional construct and was measured using Interpersonal Reactivity Index (IRI: Davis, 1980). The sample consisted of high school students (N=217). Their age ranged from 16 to 20 (M=17.51).

The obtained data was processed using method of hierarchical regression analysis; whereas personality traits and empathy were predictors and criterion variables were four humor styles. All regression models were statistically significant.

Significant predictors of Affiliative humor were personality traits Aggressiveness ( $\beta=-0.173$ ), Extraversion ( $\beta=0.574$ ) and Conscientiousness ( $\beta=-0.221$ ), ( $R=0.614$ ;  $R^2=0.377$ ). Statistically significant predictors of Self-enhancing humor were Extraversion ( $\beta=0.271$ ), Openness to experience ( $\beta=0.189$ ) and Perspective taking ( $\beta=0.144$ ), ( $R=0.497$ ;  $R^2=0.247$ ). Aggressive humor can be predicted by Negative valence ( $\beta=0.426$ ) and Conscientiousness ( $\beta=-0.180$ ), ( $R=0.522$ ;  $R^2=0.273$ ). Significant predictors of Self-defeating humor were Neuroticism ( $\beta=0.256$ ) and Perspective taking ( $\beta=0.168$ ), ( $R=0.346$ ;  $R^2=0.120$ ).

The results show following: Affiliative humor had a highest percentage of explained variance. Personality traits were better predictors of humor styles than empathy. Just one aspect of empathy slightly contributes to the prediction of the surveyed humor styles in respondents.

Keywords: humor styles, personality traits, empathy, high school students, regression analysis

Abstract number: 51

ID number of submission: 107

## **Prosocial orientation of students of different professional choices**

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The aim of the research was to examine whether there are differences in pro-social orientation between students of different professional choices. The sample consisted of 300 participants divided into three groups of 100 students of social, biomedical and technical sciences respectively. Empathy, interpersonal orientation and prosocial behaviour were treated as the indicators of students' prosocial orientation. Empathy was conceptualized as a



multidimensional construct with two affective components (Empathic concern, Personal distress) and two cognitive components (Perspective taking, Fantasy), and was measured using Interpersonal Reactivity Index (IRI, Davis, 1980). Scale of interpersonal orientation (IO, Bezinović, 1998) was used to measure philanthropic (Friendship, Need for people) and misanthropic orientation (Distrust, Social isolation) of students. Prosocial behaviour was measured by questionnaire made for research purposes (Perić and Stojiljkovic, 2011).

The obtained data was processed by ANOVA method. Results shows that students' subsample differ statistically significant in overall Empathy ( $F_{(299)} = 18.809$ ,  $p < 0.01$ ) and its componenets - PT ( $F_{(299)} = 7.450$ ,  $p < 0.01$ ), F ( $F_{(299)} = 26.619$ ,  $p < 0.01$ ), EC ( $F_{(299)} = 21.802$ ,  $p < 0.01$ ), PD ( $F_{(299)} = 4.207$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ). Post hoc test show that social sciences students have higher level of empathy than the students of technical and biomedical sciences. In regard of interpersonal orientation, ANOVA indicated statistically significant differences between the students subsamples ( $F_{(299)} = 13.464$ ,  $p < 0.01$ ), and Post hoc test show differences in Distrust ( $F_{(299)} = 10.927$ ,  $p < 0.01$ ), Social isolation ( $F_{(299)} = 24.559$ ,  $p < 0.01$ ) and overall Misanthropic orientation ( $F_{(299)} = 18.235$ ,  $p < 0.01$ ) while no differences were found in the level of philanthropic orientation. Misanthropic orientation was higher in technical sciences students compared to other two subsamples. Prosocial behaviour was low in all students subsamples. According to results, students of humanities are to a greater extent oriented towards other people and that indicate compliance of their personal characteristics and requirements of the profession you have chosen.

Keywords: prosocial orientation; empathy; misanthropy and philanthropy; prosocial behavior; students professional choice

Abstract number: 52

ID number of submission: 59

## **Relations between Irrational Beliefs and Self-Esteem in Students: Self-Downing as a Predictor of Low Self-Esteem**

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### **Abstract**

In a sample of 131 students through online testing, using the Shortened General Attitude and Belief Scale (SGABS) which was constructed by Lindner, Kirkby, Wertheim & Birch (Lindner et al, 1999) and the Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale (Rosenberg, 1965), REBT theory hypothesis about relationship between irrational beliefs and self-esteem was being tested. We expected that people with higher scores on the scale of irrational beliefs would have lower self-esteem. Scales used in this research showed a high reliability (for Shortened General Attitude and Belief Scale  $\alpha = .864$  and for Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale  $\alpha = .875$ ). The results showed statistically significant negative correlation between the level of irrational beliefs intensity and

the degree of self-esteem measured by total scores on the scales ( $F(1/129) = 5,719$ ,  $p < .05$ ,  $r = -.206$ ). Based on regression analysis it was obtained that irrational beliefs are significant predictor for self-esteem ( $F(1,129) = 5.719$ ,  $p < .05$ ,  $r^2 = .042$ ). After examining the scores on the subscales SGABS-a, it is obtained that the self-esteem negatively correlated with three subscales of irrational beliefs: rationality ( $r = -.172$ ), need for approval ( $r = -.239$ ) and self-downing ( $r = -.449$ ). Amongst these subscales, self-downing was proven to be a significant predictor of self-esteem in the model ( $R = .297$ ,  $r^2 = .089$ ;  $F(3/127) = 4.110$ ,  $p < .05$ ;  $\beta = -.272$ ;  $t = -2.961$ ,  $p < .05$ ).

Keywords: REBT, irrational beliefs, self-esteem, SGABS

## **Symposium: Chalenges of modern family**

Abstract number: 53

ID number of submission: 74b

### **Assessment of Family System in Practice**

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#### Abstract

Assessment of family functionality throughout therapeutic advancement of one family member

Family assessment is interpersonal assessment with goal to identify and describe relation processes that can be either functional or dysfunctional, for the development of an individual or relation systems. Family assessment is similar to psychological assessment because it uses

psychological instruments, scales, and surveys. This is important form clinical psychologist's perspective, to identify and measure the level of dysfunctionality. Family assessment enables the assessment of state and changes. The assessment of state is useful at the begging and at the end of therapy. The assessment of change depicts the process of change on individual plan or in family system, throughout therapy. Similar to the process of therapy, the relationship between the therapist and the client evolves, so it is difficult to ascertain the difference between the assessment and treatment, since at the same time. The determined boundary is clearly artificial.

During our individual treatment of client NN we are conducting a diagnostic assessment of the family. Over the course of advisory process we obtain the assessment of change in family system and its function. Assessment targets the following elements: emotional relations, communications can conflict, boundaries, roles and system of value. The essential dilemma in the treatment of an individual is whether he can be enough for assessing family and its dynamics? Can changes in functioning of one family member be enough to incite the changes of the family, and can the change be attributed to the treatment or different events in life that are happening over the course of treatment? Throughout the analysis of the individual progress parameters in therapy and parameters of advancement in functionality of family system, we will attempt to ascertain their mutual connection.

Keywords: Family system, Assessment, State of family functionality, process of change

Abstract number: 54

ID number of submission: 110

## **Domestic Violence - A Challenge for Professional Help**

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### **Abstract**

Domestic violence is one of the forms of human rights violations. It arises as the consequence of numerous factors, from those manifested at a personal level, to interactional, to those that operate at a wider social level. In recent years, domestic violence has been recognized as a social problem and it is a part of criminal legislature. In this way, violence against family members is sanctioned and punished by a competent authority. Simultaneously with sanctioning already committed acts of violence, repeated violence is sought to be prevented. For this purpose, it is necessary to work both with victims and perpetrators of violence. To achieve these goals, the work of professional helpers is one of the crucial factors. In order to successfully address the problem of domestic violence, professional helpers, and especially psychologists and social workers, have to possess certain competences for working with violence victims and perpetrators. In order to successfully assist violence victims so as to empower them to leave the

violent relationship, professional helpers need to understand the dynamics of violence and violent relationship, to recognize resources that the victim has, the role that the power has in a violence partner relationship, as well as the reasons that the victim keep the victim in such a relationship. Furthermore, they have to recognize the discourses that victims rely on in order to construct their subjective positions and how these discourses keep them in the violent relationship. When working with perpetrators of domestic violence, professional helpers have to find a non-accusatory attitude and to find a level of admitted responsibility for the committed act through a carefully conducted interview and by using the techniques of assertive listening. In the follow-up work with the perpetrators, it is a goal for them to acquire an insight in the nature of their violent behavior, to take full responsibility for violence, change their beliefs that contribute to violence, understand the consequences that violence has on the partner relationship and to develop nonviolent behavior skills.

Key words: Professional helpers, Victims, Perpetrators of violence, Competences

Abstract number: 55

ID number of submission: 101

## **Empathy and interpersonal orientation among family mediators**

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### **Abstract**

Mediation is an informal and flexible process of resolving conflicts through negotiation, with the assistance of a mediator. Here, the mediator has a crucial role. Through his approach, he builds the relationship with the clients and influences the outcome of the mediation itself. Practice shows that family mediation process is widely accepted. However, studies about this field in our country are very rare. The greatest contribution of psychology in this field is in the therapies it developed, and in the studies of the characteristics of the participants in mediation, primarily mediators. Family mediation theory and practice suggest that the primary goals of mediators are to establish a warm atmosphere and a collaborative relationship with clients, to listen carefully, understand them and empathize with clients, and to have a positive attitude towards people. Therefore, the main objective of this paper is to investigate the expression of empathy and interpersonal orientation in social workers, who have a mediation role among others. In this research, the Interpersonal Reactivity Index was used for measuring life satisfaction (Davis, 1980), and the Scale of interpersonal orientation (Bezinović, 2002). There were 47 respondents in this study from the Center of social work in Belgrade. The average

age of the respondents is 43.21, and the average work experience is 14.7 years. The results showed that the respondents scored more than the average population on the three dimensions of empathy, and also that cognitive aspects of empathy are more obvious in relation to the affective: Perspective Taking (AS=25.446, SD=4.822), Fantasy (AS=23.893, SD=4.714), Empathic Concern (AS=23.829, SD=4.522), Personal Distress (AS=18.170, SD=5.715). Philanthropic orientation (AS=50.170, SD=7.954) is more pronounced than the misanthropic one (AS=27.574, SD=9.001). There is a positive correlation between friendship and Empathic Concern ( $r=0.338$ ,  $p<0.05$ ), and a negative correlation between Perspective Taking, distrust ( $r=-0.344$ ,  $p<0.05$ ) and social isolation ( $r=-0.344$ ,  $p<0.05$ ).

Keywords: mediation, social workers, empathy, interpersonal orientation

Abstract number: 56

ID number of submission: 113

## New Family Forms

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### Abstract

Today, there is a large variety of family forms. Beside the traditional family, there are several nontraditional forms: single parent families, cohabiting families and stepfamilies. These nontraditional forms are mainly created by breaking and reentering traditional relationships. New family forms, the number of which has been constantly rising since the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, have essentially different structure or they are generated in a different way when compared to the traditional and nontraditional forms. This includes IVF families, donor conception families, surrogacy families; lesbian mother families, gay father families and solo mother families. The most common prejudices against the most new forms are doubts about the ability to perform the parental role and an assumption that children will suffer from disrupted psychosocial development. Results of psychological studies indicate certain specificities of the parenthood and/or challenges of children growing up within new family forms, but also demonstrate that there is no reason to doubt the quality of the parenthood or serious reasons to be concerned about the wellbeing of the children. A significant challenge for most of the children from the new family forms is to overcome prospective negative reactions of the society in which they live.

Key words: new family forms; families created thru assisted reproduction; homosexual parents families; solo mother families.

## **Organizational Psychology**

Abstract number: 57

ID number of submission: 9

### **The managerial competences for leading during economic uncertainty**

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#### Abstract

The goal of this research was to determine the relative contribution of an individual's personality traits and motives and their interactions with a person's willingness to take risks in a business environment during economic uncertainty. The test sample was made up of managers from different hierarchical positions with varied work experiences (N = 172; 55% male). For this research Hogan's battery tests were chosen. Hogan's battery tests are consisted of 3 questionnaires, HPI, HDS and MVPI. Willingness to take risks was measured with a subscale Manipulation of the HDS scale of Hogan's Development survey. The results of the regression analysis suggest that personality traits and motives are important predictors for willingness to take risks. The individual personality traits that stand out are Prudence ( $\beta = -.32$ ,  $p < .01$ ) and Inquisitiveness ( $\beta = .31$ ;  $p < .01$ ), and the motives that stand out are Hedonism ( $\beta = .31$ ;  $p < .01$ ) and

Recognition ( $\beta=.27$ ;  $p<.001$ ). On the level of interactions, the significant moderating effects of Science on the relationship of Inquisitiveness and Willingness to take risks ( $\Delta F= 6.80$ ;  $p<.01$ ;  $\beta=.223$ ,  $p<.01$ ) and of Affiliation on the relationship of Learning approach and Willingness to taking risks ( $\Delta F= 6.01$ ;  $p<.01$ ;  $\beta= -.183$ ,  $p<.01$ ) were noted. The results suggest, both directly and indirectly, ways of motivating employees and devising activities tied to changes and risk. The results can be of importance for selecting, recruiting, training and educating managers for leading during economic uncertainty.

Keywords: willingness to take risk, managers, personality traits, motivation value preferences

Abstract number: 58

ID number of submission: 45

### **Employees attitudes about gender equality in ministry of defence and Serbian armed forces, from the perspective of Inglehart and Norris theory**

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#### Abstract

Theoretical approach of this work is Inglehart and Norris theory (2005) which defined gender equality as a specific value orientation made up of different attitudes about relations between sexes in the private and public spheres. In this study, using a sample of 445 officers members of the defense system of the Republic of Serbia, we studied the attitude towards gender equality (Gender Equality Scale) and we successively carry out a comparative analysis in relation to the data obtained on the same items at a sample of the citizens of Serbia (Ignjatovic et al., 2010). Results demonstrate statistically significant correlation between attitudes towards gender equality in the public and private spheres and the following socio-demographic variables: place of residence up to 15 years, the level of education, level of education of emotional partner, type of high school, type of Faculty completed, average marks of postgraduate training, marital status, number of children, rank, length of service in the military, organizational affiliation and services military specialties. Based on all analyzed data, it can be concluded that the attitudes of officers are more liberal when it is about gender equality in the public sphere in relation to the understanding of gender roles in the private sphere. The results are checked in accordance with the theoretical concept.

Keywords: gender equality, attitudes, employees, Ministry of Defence and Serbian Armed Forces

Abstract number: 59

ID number of submission: 85

## **The analysis of corporate values and loyalty of employees in the banking sector**

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### Abstract

Values are dispositions that greatly affect the motivation and perseverance in the realization of goals. In the organizational context, corporate values influence the motivation of employees and the degree of loyalty and positive attachment to the company. The study aimed to investigate whether and to what extent employees recognize the corporate values of the company and to measure the degree of loyalty and positive attachment to the company. The sample consisted of 590 employees in the banking sector (32.4% men and 67.4% women). The largest percentage of participants (52.4%) was younger than 35 years and had a university degree (55.5%). Participants filled out Perception and Assessment of Loyalty, online questionnaire redesigned for the purpose of the study (Ораиџ & Sladojeviџ Matиџ, 2009; 2015; 2016). The results have shown that employees recognize the main corporate values (recognition on the market 71% of participants; the client as a partner 61% of participants; corporate power - good business results 53% of participants). Results have also shown a high degree of loyalty of employees ("I feel good when I hear that the company supported a humanitarian, cultural or sporting event." – M = 4.59; "I am ready to "defend" the company when mentioned in a negative context." – M = 4.55; "I get nervous if I hear in the media inaccurate and non-affirmative



statements about the company" – M= 4.36; "I perceive the success of the company as personal success." – M = 4.32). Results indicate compliance between recognized corporate values and high loyalty of employees.

In the following research, relationship between recognition of corporate values and loyalty of employees should be further examined, in order to obtain more information regarding link between these two variables.

Keywords: corporate values, loyalty, employees

Abstract number: 60

ID number of submission: 92

## **Pay satisfaction and work environment factors in productive activity**

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### Abstract

Problem of the research is searching for relationship between pay satisfaction and other work environment factors such as pay equality, job satisfaction, life satisfaction, organizational commitment, work stress, interpersonal relations. The theoretical findings suggest the importance of wages to meet the existential needs and the needs for security, also the self concept as well as the needs for social status, prestige, achievement, power, self-esteem. One always has the opportunity to meet its needs through work and good performance. According to the theory of justice (S. Adams), is not so important the very amount of the salary but the comparison between one's own pay and salaries of other people for who one considers to be important persons seems to be important. When someone considers that it is fairly paid for its work as well when compared to the significant other for him/her people, then one feels pay satisfaction, but commits closer to its organization and stays longer in it. Pay satisfaction is linked to job satisfaction, according spill-over hypothesis, job satisfaction overflows on life satisfaction. Fair treatment of job accomplishment and fair pay allow to build good relations between people and to alleviate job stress. Respective New Money Ethic Scale-subcales (Tang, 2000) and Work Environment Scale-subcales (Moos, 1997) were applied to survey 78

employees in state-owned organizations to produce heat and electrical energy in several cities in Macedonia. The results confirm the theory of fairness and spill-over hypothesis due to existence of significant correlations among pay satisfaction and above factors of work environment. The best regression model includes three predictors of the pay satisfaction, it is a comparison of pay equality, job satisfaction and work stress that together explained 70% of variance in pay satisfaction. The conclusion concerns the pay satisfaction in connection with definite work environment factors to impact good productivity.

Keywords: pay satisfaction, pay equality, job satisfaction, work stress.

## **Social psychology & Psychometrics**

Abstract number: 61

ID number of submission: 15

### **The effect of new media on the appearance of adolescents**

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*Faculty of Philosophy, University of Niš*

#### Abstract

Given that we live in exponential times, where the period of technological innovation and implementation is ever shorter, it is necessary to re-access and review the psychological effects that the sphere of new media entails. Bearing in mind the idea of Marshall McLuhan that the media create their own needs rather than simply satisfy those that already exist, we can anticipate the persuasive character of the media. One of the important segments and problems is the impact of new media on the formation of self-image, that users acquire and change, taking advantage of the fluid boundaries between real and virtual world. The basic hypothesis of the work is that the media imposing of the cult of youth, exaggerated thinness for girls and muscularity for boys represents the ideal that gives rise to anxiety and loss of self-esteem. Guided by the idea of suggestive function of the media, which means that the media suggest us the physical appearance, the subject of this research will be the causal influence of the media on the change of body image of youth, the perception of beauty and the ideal male and female figures. The first method of this study will be an experiment which will include two groups of students (basic and control), where the basic group of students will observe specific media content that promotes thinness and muscularity, and then fill out a particular questionnaire about how they feel in their

own skin and what is their level of self-esteem. Given that the work will discuss the impact of new media (*Facebook* and *Instagram*) on the appearance of adolescents, the second method will be a specifically designed survey that will be conducted among students of the University of Nis.

Keywords: new media, body image, media culture, the ideal of beauty, adolescents

Abstract number: 62

ID number of submission: 16

### **The influence of social media on socio-linguistic aspects of personality**

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*University of Niš*

#### **Abstract**

The expansion of new technologies and development of new forms of communication, mediated by increasingly complex media, have led to the creation of specific human relations, which, though dominated in the virtual world, have a visual impact on the immediate interaction in society. Since communication on the Internet, especially on social networks, occupies a central place in the information age, the authors deal with the consideration of its impact on the socio-linguistic aspects of personality. The paper starts from the thesis that, in spite of the many positive effects of the Internet, virtual communication significantly depletes human relations. Communication through social networks is limited to the existing repertoire of characters, symbols, sounds, and as such has a profound effect on the primary means of communication between people - language. Considering the impact of new media, especially social networks on the language, and indirectly on the personality, the authors refer to the theoretical assumptions of a linguist - David Crystal. Crystal believes that the spoken and written language is replaced by a completely new medium, with a significant role of the English, which is becoming the global language, led to the domination of plurilingualism. By analyzing the content of social networks authors will try to point out the advantages and the disadvantages of communication on the Internet and its impact on personality.

Keywords: social media, linguistic, communication, internet

Abstract number: 63

ID number of submission: 58

### **Sociodemographic determinants of attitudes towards reality shows**

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#### **Abstract**

Media culture represents a dominant force of socialization, therefore it is important to understand the potential of its effects. Television has a fundamental impact on people because behavior shown on TV can play an important role in forming of the social norms. Reality show programs are a very adjustable and resistant phenomenon where participants are portrayed as ordinary people (whose behavior is more or less controlled by the producers), moments of crisis are emphasized and individuals are given a chance to confess in front of an auditorium in order to attract as numerous audience as possible. Considering past research which were mainly focused on what motivates people to watch reality shows, this research was focused on examining the relationship between the attitudes towards reality show programs and certain sociodemographic determinants. The sample consists of 517 respondents, 71.7% of which are women. The Questionnaire of attitudes towards reality show programs (USRSP) was constructed for this research. By the use of factor analysis three components of attitudes towards reality shows were extracted: Negative attitude, Positive attitude and General awareness. Results indicate that there are some sex related differences in attitudes whereby men express more positive attitudes than women. More educated respondents express more negative attitudes, i.e. they have less positive attitudes and are less informed about reality shows. Differences in attitudes are not statistically significant when place of residence is taken into account. Employed

individuals have shown a more positive attitude than students who express more criticism towards reality show programs. Future research should examine the relationship between attitudes towards reality shows and personality traits, possibly on a representative sample. Also, identifying sensitive groups easily subjected to this ever growing dehumanization of society could help designing an education on cultural values.

Keywords: attitudes, reality shows, sociodemographic determinants

Abstract number: 64

ID number of submission: 106

## **Moral aspects of attitudes toward immigrants: the role of Dark Tetrad and Moral Foundations**

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### Abstract

Immigration and refugee crisis is currently very important problem for many European countries, including Serbia. People's reactions on refugees and immigrants from Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, and North Africa are polarized: some people are against immigrants and advocate rigorous policies, and even violence toward them, but others advocate solidarity and provide support to immigrants. Some previous studies showed that prejudice toward immigrants could be predicted by Social Dominance Orientation (SDO) and Dark triad traits. But, there are no researches of effects of human moral dispositions on attitudes toward immigrants. The main aim of this research is to investigate a contribution of a morally-relevant personality traits and moral foundation beliefs in prediction of general and, also, situation-related prosocial attitudes toward immigrants. There were 541 respondents in this study. General and specific attitudes toward immigrants were operationalized through items "Foreigners and immigrants have a beneficial effect on our society" and "In your opinion, to what extent Serbia should allow people from other countries, regardless of skin color, nationality or country of origin to immigrate, live and work in Serbia?". Following measures were used: Short Dark Triad scale, Short Sadistic Impulse Scale and Moral Foundations Questionnaire.

Results of hierarchical regression analysis showed that both general and specific attitudes toward immigrants were mainly determined by moral beliefs (14% and 7% of variance, respectively). But, in the case of specific, "threat-provoked" attitude, personality traits also had significant role (explaining 7% of variance). General attitude was predicted by Harm/Care beliefs ( $\beta=.26$ ) and Authority ( $\beta=-.26$ ) and Purity ( $\beta=-.26$ ), with marginal effect of Narcissism ( $\beta=.10$ ). Specific attitude was predicted also by Harm/Care ( $\beta=.12$ ) and Purity ( $\beta=-.22$ ), as well as by Psychopathy ( $\beta=-.13$ ) and Sadism ( $\beta=-.12$ ).

These results suggested that under perception of the concrete threats from "others" (immigrants with different skin color, nationality, religion, from other countries) toward someone's in-group (Serbia), formal boundaries of morality are weakened (negative effect of Purity) and the most malicious personality traits are expressed (sadism and psychopathy). The results have significant implications for Moral Foundation Theory.

Keywords: immigrants, attitudes, morality, dark traits, Moral Foundations

Abstract number: 65

ID number of submission: 83

## Predictive power of Triarchic Psychopathy Measure on Dark Triad

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### Abstract

The current study explores the prognostic potential of the Triarchic Psychopathy Measure (TriPM, Patrick, 2010) in Bulgarian adolescents. TriPM is developed according to the Triarchic model proposed by Patrick et al. (2009), where psychopathy is defined as encompassing three phenotypic constructs: disinhibition, boldness, and meanness. Bulgarian version of the instrument was approbated in adolescent sample (N=592), age 13 to 19. Exploratory factor analysis confirmed the original three-factor structure of the instrument, with partial displacement of a few items. Data obtained support theoretically expected correlations between components: a stronger correlation between meanness and disinhibition, a weak between boldness and meanness, and a close to insignificant between disinhibition and boldness. Construct validity of TriPM is measured via Short Dark Triad (SD3, Jones & Paulhus, 2014), an instrument for assessment of the three socially aversive traits - psychopathy, narcissism, and Machiavellism in tandem. SD3 is in a current process of Bulgarian approbation together with TriPM. Correlation analysis of data of both scales and the conducted structural models state a good predictive explanation power of TriPM on narcissism, Machiavellianism, and psychopathy, measured with

SD3. This, together with high levels of internal consistency confirm the instrument's psychometric characteristics and its perspective of application with Bulgarian adolescents.

Keywords: TriPM, narcissism, Machiavellianism, psychopathy, adolescent

Abstract number: 66

ID number of submission: 108

## **Motivation of youth in Serbia for political determination and action**

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### Abstract

Interest in social events, political action and social values is not only a privilege of the elderly, as some think, but the youth can also have significant role in it. Since our country is undergoing rapid and tumultuous social change and democratic political processes, we were interested in this survey what is the motivation of young people for political determination and for political action, and what impact it has on political affiliation, and how do socio-demographic variables affect this kind of motivation.

The study was conducted on a sample of 112 young people in Belgrade who are members of political parties (SNS, DS, DSS, LDP), younger than 35 years. Respondents were members of both sexes, which vary by level of education, economic status and political orientation. The study was conducted as an exploratory-descriptive study, the correlation type. Data were collected through a rating scale of motivation for political determination, which is formulated specifically for this study (SMPOD).

To determine significant differences in terms of control of socio-demographic variables we used t-test and analysis of variance and principal components analysis for determining the structure of the tested subjects.

Provided that the most important factors influencing the motivation for political determination among young people are: social power, socially important goals, social life, connection with the profession, an opportunity to demonstrate their abilities and recommendations from friends. It also demonstrated that the motivation of respondents with political participation is affected by gender affiliation, economic status, education level and political orientation.

Keywords: young people, attitudes, motivation, political determination, political action

## **Poster presentations**

Abstract number: 67

ID number of submission: 108

### **Personality traits and sense of coherence in adolescents**

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Abstract

The aim of this research was to investigate the relation between personality traits and sense of coherence in adolescents, as well as examining of differences in the level of these variables regarding to gender and age of respondents. Personality traits were defined from the viewpoint of psycho-lexical studies of personality structure. Accordingly, Neuroticism, Extraversion, Openness to experience, Aggressiveness, Conscientiousness, Positive valence and Negative valence were measured by Big Five Plus Two inventory (Smederevac, Mitrovic, Colovic, 2010).

According to salutogenetic model Antonovsky, sense of coherence is understood as a relatively stable sense of security of the individual making the world comprehensible, manageable and meaningful. In order to measure it Sense of Coherence scale (SOC, Lacković-Grgin and Buntić-Pejaković, 2002) was used. The sample consisted of 199 respondents, both genders, secondary school pupils (3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> class, N=116) and university students (2<sup>nd</sup> -3<sup>rd</sup> year, N=83).



The results show that there is negative correlation between sense of coherence and Neuroticism ( $r=-0.40$ ;  $p<.01$ ), and positive correlation between sense of coherence, at the one hand, and Extraversion ( $r=0.23$ ;  $p<.01$ ), Openness to experience ( $r=0.19$ ;  $p<.01$ ) and Positive valence ( $r=0.16$ ;  $p<.05$ ) at the other hand. In regard to gender differences, it was found that males have higher level of Negative valence than females while no differences were found in the level of other personality traits and sense of coherence. Results indicate that Extraversion, Openness and Positive valence can contribute to the development of a sense of coherence in adolescents, whereas Neuroticism can slow down and obstructing their development. These findings partially confirmed hypothesis tested in this study and should be checked in further research on a larger sample and with the involvement of other characteristics of personality.

Keywords: Personality traits, sense of coherence, gender, age

Abstract number: 68

ID number of submission: 35

## **Predictors of burnout among employees at the Gerontology Center Novi Sad**

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### Abstract

The aim of this study is to investigate the prediction of stress (burnout) with employees on the basis of the type of work they do, personality traits and coping strategies. The study was conducted on a sample of employees ( $N = 125$ ) in the Gerontology Center. The average age of respondents was about 43 years old. Stress at work is operationalized through the negative indicators of stress response: burnout. On the basis of the type of work respondents were divided into two groups: 1) employees who are in direct contact with the service users (nurses, doctors, professional workers) and 2) employees who are not in direct contact with service users (administrative, financial workers, drivers, mechanics, cleaning staff). The instruments that were used are: Big Five Plus Two Questionnaire (VP + 2), Coping Strategy Indicator (CSI) and the work burnout scale from the Copenhagen Burnout inventory (Work Burnout-WB). Hierarchical regression analysis were used to examine these relationships. It is shown that the personality traits have additional predictive validity (compared to coping strategies and the type of work), while the reverse coping strategies in the prediction of burnout have no additional predictive validity in relation to personality and the type of work. The model tested the moderation of all three predictors showing higher percentage of explanation of variance (about 20%). The results indicate that partial, personality traits: Neuroticism ( $\beta = .321$ ,  $p < .01$ ) and Positive valence ( $\beta = -.254$ ,  $p < .05$ ), and coping strategies: Avoidance ( $\beta = -.212$ ,  $p < .05$ ), perceived as significant predictors in the prediction of burnout as an indicator of stress at work.

Keywords: personality traits, coping strategies, stress indicator, employees

Abstract number: 69

ID number of submission: 89

### **Professional interests of students in the graduating class of elementary school enrolling in the tourism and hospitality courses**

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#### Abstract

Vocational high school education for tourism and hospitality provides acquisition of skills necessary for employment, but selection of education in this sector implies a possession of a certain personality profile required for employment in tourism and hospitality.

We strive to determine whether the professional interest of students engaged in tourist and hospitality courses is desirable for this sector. Employment in tourism and hospitality demands the following: Preferences and interests - Above average interest for artistic presentation and moulding; a developed interest for food preparation; interest for work and communication; interest for mathematics, native and foreign languages. Preferable personality traits include: emotional stability, initiative; sociability; orderliness; tenacity; communicability; tolerance; heartiness.

A special research is not realised for operating conditions, but test material used for professional counselling of 8th grade students by branches of national employment service used in Zrenjanin and Novi Sad during this (2015/16) and the last school year has been analyzed. From the gathered sample of advised students, we have singled out the tests of 8th graders whose professional interests were the profiles of Cook, Waiter, Confectioner, Tourism technician. Tests of professional interest and pedagogical papers were analyzed. in the branch office of Zrenjanin

2016. the counselling included 150 8th graders, 11,3% of whom were interested for tourism and hospitality, whereas in the branch office of Novi Sad which counselled 149 8th graders, 23 expressed interest for tourism and hospitality. In 2015. 25 out of 141 students were interested in this sector, in Zrenjanin, and 23 out of 125 in Novi Sad.

Concerning the Zrenjanin sample, the results are as follows: 89% of the students has professional interest (and Novi Sad 25%); 83% has appropriate educational interests (and Novi Sad 40%); 76% of the students have been given an appropriate subject of work in correspondence to their professional interest (66,17%), and 78% per self-evaluation, has chosen work activities from the tourism and hospitality branch (Novi Sad 55%).

Keywords: professional interests, tourism and hospitality courses

Abstract number: 70

ID number of submission: 105

### **Learned helplessness and noise in urban living environment**

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#### **Abstract**

Noise is one of the most spread physical environmental stressors. The aim of this study was to define the individual variables that may influence the subjective noise sensitivity and the learned helplessness in an living environment. Notes that learned helplessness the interference with instrumental responding following inescapable aversive events. The research sample consisted of 160 participants (gender balanced). A questionnaire was conducted among the students that are living in noisy (more than 60 dB) and not-noisy (less than 60 dB) residential environments. Noisy environment consists of students who stay in a student dorm that is located in the center of the City of Niš. Not-noisy environment consists of students that live in a student dorm that is located away from the city center near the fields. The respondents filled in the Weinstein's Noise Sensitivity Scale, the Eysenck Personality Questionnaire, the Learned Helplessness Scale and answered the questions concerning noise annoyance and disturbed daily activities. Results show that there is a negative correlation between introversion and learned helplessness ( $r = -.426$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ). Multiple regression analysis show that neuroticism is main predictor of noise sensitivity scale in both areas. No significant differences in average learned helplessness scores were observed in both areas ( $P < 0.001$ ). education, gender, introversion were not significantly associated to noise sensitivity. Highly positive correlation was found between reported noise annoyance and noise sensitivity scale ( $P < 0.001$ ). Noise sensitive individuals are more affected by noise than less sensitive individuals. Noise sensitivity is a personality characteristic and a predictor of noise annoyance. Extroverts are more able to express

their dissatisfaction caused by noise annoyance.. Individuals react relatively in a different way in the same acoustical conditions. Future research should focus on meaning of noise, mood, motivation and other variables might influence subjective noise sensitivity in some specific situations.

Key words: noise, sensitivity, learned helplessness, noise pollution

## **Workshop**

Abstract number: 71

ID number of submission: 66

### **I love myself – how to use the love of self to improve our own life**

*Ivana Živković, Snježana Ivanović, Sandra Turudija, Gabriela Ninković Došen  
Aleksandra Stojanović  
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#### Abstract

When we say love, do we also think of love for ourselves? Not only is it possible to love others and ourselves simultaneously, it is also needed and necessary, if we want to accomplish harmonious love relations. When we talk about love of self, we can not not mention psychoanalysis. Freud viewed love of self as a form of narcissism. According to him love and love of self are mutually exclusive; if you have more of the first you have less of the latter. However, From believes that the attitude towards self-love will exist in those who are capable to love others. Today, we define love of self as a subjective feeling towards oneself, which is a result of assessment that the subject is worthy, valuable and good as being in whole. Keeping in mind the importance of love of self, we will tend to advance our knowledge of this notion trough the group process. Thus, in main part of the workshop, participants will divide themselves into small groups in which they will, by resolving a problem situation of another person, get a better understanding of their emotions. After that, the participants by guided fantasies (guided meditation) will be experiencing the emotion of love for self. At the end of the workshop is a planned discussion with a focus on the importance of self perception and perception of ones own

emotions. This workshop is intended to all of those who wish to improve themselves through personal growth and development.

Keywords: Love, Love of self, Understanding emotions, Perception of one self

Abstract number: 72

ID number of submission: 75

## **Presentation skills – A Clear and Persuasive Presentation Skills**

*Maja Vučković*

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### Abstract

Since the ancient times till nowadays, both in business and private life, the presentation skills represent the ones of the most desirable skills. Presentation is not just the appearance in front of a group of people while presenting a new product, but also representing yourself during a job interview, an ability to defend your school graduation thesis, giving a congress lecture, or deposition in front of the judge... Since there is not an extra occasion to improve the first impression, and since it is getting more and more significant to present ourselves, products, ideas in the best possible way, these skills acquisition could be the crucial issue for our business success.

The workshop on which this kind of knowledge is acquired is dedicated to all the people having an occasion to present themselves, to those involved in sales and promotion business as well as to the ones suffering from the stage fright and want to learn the art of presentation (teachers, educators, lecturers, life coaches...).

Workshop description: While performing the workshop, we are speaking about the presentation types, the presentation preparation stages, about an effective presentation preparation („Power presentation“) and how to deliver it, what makes the distinction between a successful and unsuccessful presentation, how to overcome the stage fright before appearing in public, how to get and retain the audience attention, we are learning the basic rules for accomplishing a PP presentation, the way of conducting a presentation: the attitude and body

language, interaction with the audience/listeners, the content and verbal characteristics of a good presentation.

We are acting out the samples of an effective presentation, analysing them and practicing the preparation of our own presentation.

Keywords: presentation, public appearance, „Power presentation“

## **Promotions**

Abstract number: 73

ID number of submission: -

### **PRESENTATION OF THE MONOGRAPHS IN THE FIELD OF PSYCHOLOGY AND PSYCHODIAGNOSTIC INSTRUMENTS, EDITIONS OF SINAPSA EDICIJE doo**

#### ***Participants:***

*prof. dr Snežana Stojiljković (Faculty of Arts, Niš),  
doc. dr Valentina Baić (The Academy of Criminalistics and Police Studies, Belgrade)  
and  
Nataša Barišić-Ciganović (Sinapsa edicije, Belgrade)*

**SINAPSA EDICIJE doo** is specialised publishing house from Belgrade. The goal of our organisation is to make available the contemporary scientific works, instruments and information, which can improve work of the experts of different profiles, especially psychologists.

To participants of your conference, we will present two valuable and unique scientific monographies of Serbian authors:

● ***Psychology of sex differences and similarities*** (authors: Dušanka Mitrović and Aleksandra Trogrlić) – book competently presents complex issues of sex differences and similarities, relying on relevant theories and results of numerous empiric researches.

● ***Detection of lying*** (authors: Valentina Baić and Igor Areh) – book comprehensively presents the topic of lying and ways of discovering deceitfulness behaviour.

We will also present the first Serbian editions of genuine psychodiagnostic instruments of well-known worldwide and European publishers:

● **SIXTEEN PERSONALITY FACTOR QUESTIONNAIRE FIFTH EDITION - 16PF5** (editors: Dušanka Mitrović, Snežana Smederevac and Petar Čolović) – it is mostly used for evaluation of personality in a human resources field, as an instrument of professional selection and orientation and in development of career of the employees, but also in psychology consulting, etc.

● **PERSONALITY ASSESSMENT INVENTORY - PAI** (editors: Dragana Đurić-Jočić, Vladimir Borovnica) – it presents irreplaceable instrument for getting relevant information in clinical diagnostic, treatment planning and triage of whole range of psychopathologies of adults.

● **REY COMPLEX FIGURE TEST AND RECOGNITION TRIAL - RCFT** (editor: Ivana Leposavić) – Most frequently, it is used in examination of patients with different kind of brain and cognitive damages, including dementia. It can be used also for healthy population as the indicator of many neurocognitive functions.

Abstract number: 74

ID number of submission: -

## **FROM BORDERELINE PERSONALITY TO PSYCHOLOGY OF KINDNESS**

### **Presentation of the brand new titles from Imago book collection (CLIO Publishing Company)**

*Speakers:*

*Nataša Đelošević, deputy director, Clio Publishing Company*

*PhD Mirjana Divac Jovanović, author and professor*

*Marina Vicanović, psychologist and translator*

*Imago* book collection was named and founded after German journal that used to publish works of experts from different areas of Humanities and provide scientific platform for their dialog that could result in numerous scientific and social benefits. Similarly, in 2008, this book collection was launched with the idea to give the audience the chance to find out more about psychological phenomena with the help of contemporary academic literature based on results of scientific methodology, as opposed to widely spread populist literature that usually comes down to seductive titles and guides for successful life.

*Imago* book collection gathers works that cover wide range of topics dealing with psychology and its connections with other areas of Humanities: contemporary psychology in everyday culture, history and genesis of psychological phenomena, psychoanalysis, psychotherapy, borderline areas of psychology and arts, Humanities and science, psychology as a guide for quality life. By taking this approach, it is oriented not only towards academic community, but also towards common readers who turn to psychology to discover more about autoreflexion of human beings in contemporary world, their identity and development and disorders that living in contemporary culture can cause.

On this occasion we would like to present three brand new titles form *Imago* book collection:

**THE BORDERELINE PERSONALITY DISORDER** (*Granična ličnost i njena različita lica*)

Mirjana Divac Jovanović i Dragan Švrakić

- Everything you always wanted to know about borderline disorder

**THE GOOD STUFF** (*Psihologija dobrote*)

Salman Akhtar

- Courage, resilience, gratitude, generosity, forgiveness and sacrifice through the eyes of psychoanalysis

**THE DREAM WEAVER** (*Tkač snova*)

Douwe Draaisma

- Collection of scientific studies, different theories and facts on the matter of dreams that opens new topics for research

Keywords: Humanities, psychology, psyshoanalysis, psychotherapy, literature

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