



## Sociology of Education

### Modeling Self-Esteem and Differentiation with the Mediation of Responsibility on Absolutism in Order to Educational Cultural Pathology of Adolescents

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#### Abstract

**Purpose:** Absolutism is rooted in naturalistic thinking and absolutists believe that certain principles and concepts are fixed in different cultures. The self-esteem and differentiation can impact on the beliefs of absolutism in order to educational cultural pathology of adolescents, therefore, the present study was conducted with the aim of modeling self-esteem and differentiation with the mediation of responsibility on absolutism in order to educational cultural pathology of adolescents.

**Methodology:** The current research was descriptive from type of correlation. The research population was secondary high school students of Tehran, which 385 people of them were selected as a sample by multi-stage cluster sampling method. The research tools were researcher-made questionnaires of self-esteem, differentiation, responsibility and absolutism, which their face validity was confirmed by experts' opinion and their reliability was obtained above 0.80 by Cronbach's alpha method. Data were analyzed by structural equation modeling in SPSS and AMOS software.

**Findings:** The findings showed that the model of self-esteem and differentiation with the mediation of responsibility on absolutism had a good fit. In the mentioned model, self-esteem and differentiation had a direct and significant effect on responsibility, self-esteem, differentiation and responsibility had a direct and significant effect on absolutism, and self-esteem and differentiation with the mediation of responsibility had an indirect and significant effect on absolutism ( $P < 0.05$ ).

**Conclusion:** The results indicated the effective role of self-esteem and differentiation with the mediation of responsibility on absolutism. Therefore, planners and specialists of adolescent educational cultural activities in order to reduce absolutism can seek to design and implement programs to improve self-esteem, differentiation and responsibility.



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## Detailed abstract

**Purpose:** One of the most important stages of human development is the adolescent stage, which is the stage of transition from childhood to youth, and in this stage, teenagers seek to find an independent identity for themselves. In during of adolescence, adolescents face many personal, family, academic, social, emotional and psychological problems, and on this basis research on this group and efforts to reduce their problems and improve their health are necessary. One of the topics that can be investigated in adolescents is absolutism, which is rooted in the thinking of naturalism approach. According to absolutism, some principles are absolute and general and independent of the conditions of space and time. In the other words, some principles are fixed and eternal, and eudemonism, hedonists, existentialists, and most of them the duty-oriented adhere to this theory. The variables such as self-esteem and differentiation can impact on absolutism. Self-esteem is one of the most valuable and essential factors in the development of children's and adolescents' personality, which plays an important role in promoting adaptation and health. This structure means a positive or negative attitude towards oneself, which indicates self-evaluation based on the beliefs of others according to emotional processes (positive and negative feelings, desires and attitudes about oneself) and cognitive processes (positive and negative thoughts, beliefs and cognitions about oneself). Also, differentiation is both a process and a personality trait that makes a person differentiate or separate himself from the family system with different levels of attachment without emotional detachment. Differentiation means the ability to achieve emotional control while remaining in the family atmosphere, which this concept indicates the level of a person's ability to think realistically about emotional issues in the family and indicates a kind of intra-individual capacity to differentiate thinking, feeling and interpersonal ability to maintain independence within the context of family deep relationships. Differentiation is the most important concept of family theory systems, which shows the level of a person's ability to separate rational and emotional processes, and based on this concept, a person reaches a level of emotional independence that can be able to make rational and autonomous decisions in affective and emotional situations without drowning in the emotional atmosphere of those situations. One of the variables investigated in this research is responsibility, which indicates the commitment and adherence to perform a set of duties and tasks to maintain and improve the group or society. Responsibility is a conscious choice without coercion in determining one's own behavior and how to behave with others in social relationships and appropriateness. Responsibility is the foundation of many of the individual's successes in life, which family, social relations and interpersonal interactions cause its formation and growth. Few researches have been done about the relationships of self-esteem, differentiation, responsibility and absolutism. Today, cultural diversity and the effort to eliminate them are undeniable categories at the global level. The educational cultural patterns of any civilization originate from a certain part of the beliefs of that society, and every culture uses material technology or selected educational cultural characteristics, which all human behaviors are explained in line with. Also, considering the sensitivity of adolescence stage and the vulnerability of adolescents, knowing their characteristics and the conditions and atmosphere governing their families can be useful to specialists and planners in designing and implementing programs to reduce the vulnerability of adolescents. Absolutism is rooted in naturalistic thinking and absolutists believe that certain principles and concepts are fixed in different cultures. The self-esteem and differentiation can impact on the beliefs of absolutism in order to educational cultural pathology of adolescents, therefore, the present study was conducted with the aim of modeling self-esteem and differentiation with the mediation of responsibility on absolutism in order to educational cultural pathology of adolescents.

**Methodology:** The current research was descriptive from type of correlation. The research population was secondary high school students of Tehran, which 385 people of them were selected as a sample by multi-stage cluster sampling method. In this sampling method, first the city of Tehran is divided into five sections, North,

South, East, West and Central, and two sections were randomly selected, and then a number of girls' and boys' schools were randomly selected from each section, and three classes are selected from each selected school in different grades (10th, 11th and 12th) were randomly selected and all the students of the selected classes were selected as a samples. In this study, the inclusion criteria were included the living with parents, signing the consent form and knowingly participating in the research by the students and one of their parents, not being addicted and taking psychiatric drugs such as anti-anxiety and anti-depressants, not having a history of failure in previous grades, having Physical and mental health based on the opinion of the school's executive staff (counselor or deputy) and not receiving psychological services in the last three months, and the exclusion criteria were included refusal to complete the research instruments and failure to complete them (at least 10% non-response). The research tools were researcher-made questionnaires of self-esteem, differentiation, responsibility and absolutism, which their face validity was confirmed by experts' opinion and their reliability was obtained above 0.80 by Cronbach's alpha method. Data result of the implementation of researcher-made questionnaires of self-esteem, differentiation, responsibility and absolutism were analyzed by structural equation modeling in SPSS and AMOS software.

**Findings:** The findings showed that in this study there were 385 secondary high school students, which they were studying 204 boys and 181 girls, 311 in public schools and 74 in non-profit schools, 79 in tenth grade, 194 in eleventh grade and 112 in twelfth grade. Also, the model of self-esteem and differentiation with the mediation of responsibility on absolutism had a good fit. In the mentioned model, self-esteem and differentiation had a direct and significant effect on responsibility, self-esteem, differentiation and responsibility had a direct and significant effect on absolutism, and self-esteem and differentiation with the mediation of responsibility had an indirect and significant effect on absolutism ( $P < 0.05$ ).

**Conclusion:** The results indicated the effective role of self-esteem and differentiation with the mediation of responsibility on absolutism. Therefore, planners and specialists of adolescent educational cultural activities in order to reduce absolutism can seek to design and implement programs to improve self-esteem, differentiation and responsibility.