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## Investigating the Affecting Scientific Factors on the Moral Education of Senior School Female Students and Presenting a Pattern

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**Purpose:** Moral education is an important factor in improving the state of educational systems. Therefore, the purpose of this study was to investigating the affecting scientific factors on the moral education of senior school female students and to presenting a pattern.

**Methodology:** The current research is among mixed exploratory research (qualitative-quantitative). The qualitative population was university experts of Tehran city, which according to the principle of theoretical saturation number of 15 people of them were selected through purposive and snowball sampling methods and were subjected to semi-structured interviews. The quantitative population was the senior school female students of five district of Tehran city, which according to Krejcie and Morgan's table and due to possible spills number of 384 people were selected by multi-stage cluster sampling method and answered the researcher-made questionnaire. The qualitative and quantitative data were analyzed with open, central and selective coding methods in MAXQDA software and exploratory factor analysis in SPSS and LISREL software, respectively.

**Findings:** The findings showed that the affecting scientific factors on the moral education of senior school female students were included 87 indicators, 21 concepts in 10 categories of social maturity, social, cultural, economic, family and educational infrastructures, personality and moral characteristics and learning and parenting styles, economic factors, critical thinking, social mission, life priorities, valid moral resources, self-awareness and social damages. Other findings showed that validity was confirmed because the average variance extracted for all 10 categories was higher than 0.50 and reliability was confirmed because the Cronbach's alpha and combined was higher than 0.70 for all of them. In addition, the pattern of affecting scientific factors on the moral education of senior school female students had a good fit and I the said pattern the factor load of all 10 categories was significant ( $P < 0.05$ ).

**Conclusion:** The pattern of affecting scientific factors on the moral education of senior school female students has practical implications for education officials and supervisors. According to the results of this study, they can take an effective step towards improving the moral education of students.



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## Extended Abstract

**Purpose:** Always paying attention to the discussion of ethics and moral development has been one of the most basic goals for families and educational system or society, and the reason for this is to create a worthy generation in the family and have a dynamic and efficient society. Therefore, moral education and helping to the moral growth of students is one of the ideal goals of all educational systems. Education has various fields, which one of the most important and main is the field of moral education, which is a part of the human educational program that guarantees the flourishing of scientific and practical moral talents and the development of a personality adorned with moral virtues. Since ethics and moral education are one of the important challenges of the present and future of societies and educational systems, therefore, one of the concerns of educational policy makers in the world is the moral education of students. Ethics is the main way to prevent and avoid from psychological and social harms and is the root of all reforms and the most effective way to fight corruption in different fields in different societies. The concept of ethics is one of the most important concepts in the field of humanities and social sciences which always have been different views about it, and different pundits and experts presented different opinions about its meaning and concept based on their different epistemological bases and intellectual supports. Ethics is one of the most essential human needs today to achieve happiness, and the students of every society will take responsibility for the administration and management of the country in the near future. Therefore, they are the future builders of the society and they allocate a major part of the budget and planning of each country. Education has different dimensions of religious, moral, personal, social, etc. and refers to the cultivation of human's material and spiritual talents and guiding them towards human perfection. Ethics and moral education is one of the most important human issues in all human societies, and the fostering of moral virtues is one of the most important noble goals of the prophet's mission, which plays an effective role in the individual and social well-being of human beings and is a source of human peace and soul health. Moral education is the process of internalizing moral values and the stable formation of human personality based on the characteristics of a perfect human being in the path of transitioning from the existing situation to perfection in the direction of moving to achieve the peaceful appearance of an ethical person. This education is the objective realization of all the teachings that the science of ethics calls people to. Also, moral education means stimulating, providing and using training and educational mechanisms to receive moral propositions, to recognize and introduce virtues and vices, to create a context for creating attitudes, to adopt good morals and strictness, to adhere and objectify moral values in order to achieve eternal happiness and perfection. Moral education is an important factor in improving the state of educational systems. Therefore, the purpose of this study was to investigating the affecting scientific factors on the moral education of senior school female students and to presenting a pattern.

**Methodology:** The current research is among mixed exploratory research (qualitative-quantitative). The qualitative population was university experts of Tehran city, which according to the principle of theoretical saturation number of 15 people of them were selected through purposive and snowball sampling methods and were subjected to semi-structured interviews. In this study, the university experts included experts in the field of cognition from prestigious domestic universities, which the conditions of their selection include such things as being a faculty member in the field of philosophy of education and educational sciences or related fields, having at least two articles or books in the field of moral education, membership in prestigious associations and the conferences of this field as an effective member and specialized teaching of lessons related to moral education. In this section, validity was confirmed by triangulation method and reliability was confirmed by agreement coefficient method between two coders with a value of 0.80. The quantitative population was the senior school female students of five district of Tehran city, which according to Krejcie and Morgan's table and due to possible spills number of 384 people were selected by multi-stage cluster sampling method and answered the researcher-made questionnaire. In this study, for the selection of students were also considered conditions, among other things we can point out that not having failed and suspended in the previous grades, not being temporarily expelled from the class due to abnormal behavior, not having a history of running away from school or being expelled from school, etc. In this section, the psychometric indicators including the validity and reliability of the researcher-made questionnaire were confirmed in this study. The qualitative and quantitative data were analyzed with open, central and selective coding methods in MAXQDA software and exploratory factor analysis in SPSS and LISREL software, respectively.

**Findings:** The findings showed that the affecting scientific factors on the moral education of senior school female students were included 87 indicators, 21 concepts in 10 categories of social maturity, social, cultural, economic, family and educational infrastructures, personality and moral characteristics and learning and parenting styles, economic factors, critical thinking, social mission, life priorities, valid moral resources, self-awareness and social damages. Other findings showed that validity was confirmed because the average variance extracted for all 10 categories was higher than 0.50 and reliability was confirmed because the Cronbach's alpha and combined was higher than 0.70 for all of them. In addition, the pattern of affecting scientific factors on the moral education of senior school female students had a good fit and I the said pattern the factor load of all 10 categories was significant ( $P < 0.05$ ).

**Conclusion:** The pattern of affecting scientific factors on the moral education of senior school female students has practical implications for education officials and supervisors. According to the results of this study, they can take an effective step towards improving the moral education of students. According to the findings of this study, one of the potential factors in the emergence and escalation of students' problems is the lack of skills related to moral education, so it is suggested to use workshops and training courses to increase the amount of skills, techniques and information necessary to be provided for familiarize students and families with related issues with moral education.