Abstract Submission

Overview

Abstract type

Poster

Author information

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Abstract title

Negative childhood experiences and borderline personality disorder features: The mediating role of attachment style in nonclinical adolescents

Topics

Topic: Adolescence

Abstract text

Objectives / Objetivos: Borderline personality disorder features have repeatedly been associated with a history of adverse experiences in childhood; this study had the aim to evaluate if attachment style dimensions significantly mediate the relationships between lack of parental care (neglect and antipathy), and borderline personality disorder features in adolescents.

Methods / Métodos: 591 nonclinical Italian adolescents recruited in school settings were administered the Borderline Personality Inventory (Leichsenring, 1999a), the Child Experience of Care and Abuse Questionnaire (Bifulco, Bernazzani, Moran, & Jacobs, 1994), and the Attachment Style Questionnaire (Feeney, Noller, & Hanrahan, 1994). Structural equation modeling (SEM) was used to test the proposed mediation model and to ascertain direct and indirect effects among study variables.

Results / Resultados: SEM analyses showed that both attachment style dimensions (anxiety and avoidance) significantly mediated the relationships between both neglect and antipathy, and borderline personality features. Findings were not different across genders.

Conclusions / Conclusión: Mediation analyses provided support for partial mediation, revealing a significant mediating role of attachment style dimensions in the relationships between both neglect and antipathy and borderline personality features in this student sample. Limitations and clinical implications are discussed.

Conflict of interests: There is no financial conflict of interest / No hay conflicto financiero de interés.