ASSOCIATION BETWEEN PARENTAL INVALIDATION AND BORDERLINE PERSONALITY DISORDER SYMPTOMS: SELF-CONSTRUAL AND CONFORMITY AS MODERATING FACTORS

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Introduction – Borderline Personality Disorder (BPD)

Prevalence: 0.5% to 5.9%  
(Grant, et al., 2008; Samuels, et al., 2002)

Multidomain Dysregulation  
(Perry & Klerman, 1980)

Elevated Suicide Risk  
(Kehrre & Linehan, 1996)
Introduction – Biosocial Model (Linehan, 1993)

Borderline Personality Disorder Symptomatology

An environment that persistently disregards, ignores, or punishes an individual for expressing his or her needs and emotions. Which may include abuse.
Introduction – Empirical Support for Invalidation-BPD Association
Cheavens et al. (2005)

- Parental Criticism
- Thought Suppression
- BPD Symptoms

Sturrock & Mellor (2014)

- Partner Invalidation
- Poor Distress Tolerance
- BPD Symptoms
- Emotional Dysregulation
- Past Parental Invalidation

Sturrock & Mellor (2014)
Reeves et al. (2010)

- BPD Symptoms
- Emotional Dysregulation
- Emotional Vulnerability
- Parental Invalidation
Mothers are presumably the primary caregiver in traditional families and contributes to BPD development. (Arens, Grabe, Spitzer, & Barnow, 2011; Cinammon & Rich, 2002)
EAST AND WEST
Huang et al. (2012)

Chinese Psychiatric Sample ($n=400$)

No Personality Disorders
Or
Other PD

Borderline Personality Disorders

Those with BPD reported higher levels of parental physical, emotional and sexual abuse

Zhang et al. (2012)

Childhood Abuse: Emotional
Physical
Sexual

BPD Symptoms
Taking Stock of the Chinese Studies: Good, but

Parental Invalidation as a whole?

Multicultural Sample? Related cultural constructs?
Introduction – Culture

Definition:
a set of psychosocial processes that differentiate one group from another, which include rituals, customs, institutions, beliefs and values (Cooper & Leong, 2008)

Affect (Butler, Lee, & Gross, 2007)
Cognition (Matsumoto, 1999)
Behavior (Hoshino-Browne, et al., 2005)
Introduction – Culture and BPD Etiology

Self-Construal (Singelis, 1994; Triandis, 1994; Triandis, Bontempo, Villareal, Asai, & Lucca, 1988) vs Conformity (Brewer & Chen, 2007; Kim & Markus, 1999)

the extent to which individuals:

• Self as a unique, separate entity (independent self-construal)

• Self defined by important, close relationships to others (interdependent self-construal)

pertains to the extent to which individuals value the importance of conformity as a cultural value.
The Current Study – Hypotheses

• H1: Parental invalidation associated with BPD symptoms
  • Maternal invalidation more important than paternal invalidation

• H2: Conformity and Self-construal moderate invalidation-BPD association
  • High conformity = stronger invalidation effect; Low conformity = weaker invalidation effect
  • Moderating effect of conformity depends on self-construal
Methods – Sample and Procedure

- Undergraduates from National University of Singapore
- $N = 270$
  - Ethnicity: 89.7% Chinese, 5.2% Indian, 3.1% Malay, and 2.1% others
  - Sex: 72.1% Female, 27.9% Male
  - Age: $M = 19.94$, range 18-31
  - Marital status: 90.3% Never married
  - Employment status: 87.2% not employed

- Procedure
Methods – Measures

- **Demographic data.**
  - Gender, age, ethnicity, current relationship status, and employment status

- **BPD Symptoms**
  - Personality Assessment Inventory - Borderline Features Scale (PAI-BOR; Morey, 1999)

- **Parental Invalidation**
  - The Invalidating Childhood Experiences Scale (ICES; Mountford, Corstorphine, Tomlinson, & Waller, 2007)

- **Self-construal**
  - The Singelis Self-Construal Scale (SSCS; Singelis, 1994)

- **Conformity**
  - The Asian Values Scale-Revised (AVS-R; Kim & Hong, 2004)
Results – Preliminary Factor Analysis

- 8-component solution
  - 60.40% of the variance
  - After exclusion, 5 components with 19 items loaded

- Family’s “Face” concerns
- Academic Achievement
- Humility and Modesty
- Authority Adherence
- Conformity to Norms
Results – 1st Primary Analysis

Maternal invalidation

$F(1, 288) = 30.15$
$\beta = .31, p < .01$
$R^2 = .10$

BPD Symptoms
Results – 1st Primary Analysis

Paternal invalidation

$F(1, 288) = 21.25$
$\beta = .26, p < .01$
$R^2 = .07$

BPD Symptoms
Results – 1st Primary Analysis

Paternal invalidation

Maternal invalidation

BPD Symptoms

Overall

\[ F(2, 287) = 15.56, p < .01 \]

\[ \beta = .08, p = .326 \]

\[ \beta = .25, p < .01 \]
Results – 2\textsuperscript{nd} Primary Analysis (Model 3)

- Maternal invalidation: $\beta = .28, p < .01$
- Self-Construal: $\beta = -.16, p < .01$
- Conformity: $\beta = -.04, p > .05$

- MI x SC: $\beta = -.04, p > .05$
- MI x CON: $\beta = .13, p < .05$
- SC x CON: $\beta = .14, p < .05$

$F_{\text{change}}(1, 288) = 3.03$  
$Rsquared \text{ change} = .02$  
$p < .01$

BPD Symptoms
Results – 2\textsuperscript{nd} Primary Analysis (Post-hoc analyses)
Results – 2\textsuperscript{nd} Primary Analysis (Post-hoc analyses)

- **Independent Self-Consturual**
  - Maternal invalidation \( \beta = .27, p < .01 \)
  - Conformity \( \beta = -.18, p > .05 \)
  - MI x CON \( \beta = -.01, p < .05 \)

- **BPD Symptoms**
  - \( F (1, 190) = 5.12 \)
  - \( Rsquared = .10 \)
  - \( p < .01 \)
Results – 2nd Primary Analysis (Post-hoc analyses)

- Maternal invalidation
  \[ \beta = .32, p < .01 \]

- Conformity
  \[ \beta = -.14, p > .05 \]

- MI x CON
  \[ \beta = .18, p < .05 \]

- BPD Symptoms
  \[ F(1, 98) = 22.54, \quad R^2 = .17, \quad p < .01 \]
Results – 2nd Primary Analysis (Post-hoc analyses)

Interdependent Self-Construal

Chart 1. BPD symptomatology for interdependent individuals with varying levels of maternal invalidation (MI) and conformity to norms.

\[ \beta = 0.51, p < 0.01 \]

\[ \beta = 0.12, p = 0.24 \]
Discussion – The role of mothers

- Primary caregivers (Cinnamon & Rich, 2002)
- Spend more time with children (Craig, 2006)
- Contribution to specific self-regulatory emotional domains (Chang, Schwartz, Dodge & Mcbride-Chang, 2002)
Discussion –
The Self-Construal Difference
Discussion –
The Self-Construal Difference: Self evaluation (Heine, 2001)

Maternal invalidation

Interdependent Self-Construal

Failure
Discussion – Strengths and Limitations

• Strengths
  • First look at culture and BPD aetiology
  • Validation in a multicultural sample
  • Sample size ($N = 270$)

• Weaknesses
  • Cross-sectional
  • Self-report
  • Retrospective
  • Undergraduate sample
Discussion – Implications

• Clinical implications
  • Attention to Cultural Values
  • The need to target invalidating parenting

• Research implications:
  • Inclusion of Cultural variables into BPD models
  • Differences within the larger Asian group
Thank you! (Q&A)

For Enquires, please email:

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Q&A FAQ

Why the factor analysis for the AVS-R?

- Measure conformity as a value
- Unsure of scale validity in Singapore
Q&A FAQ

Is the AVS-R and Self-Construal scale measuring the same thing?

- **Tolerance: .97**
  - A tolerance of 0 implies perfect collinearity, with 0.10 as the cut-off; a tolerance of 1 implies no collinearity.

- **Variance Inflation Factor: 1.03**
  - A VIF indicates the degree of bias introduced by collinearity between variables in a regression model. A VIF of 10 implies the presence of collinearity and great impact upon the regression model, and a VIF of 1 indicates little to no impact of collinearity upon the regression.
Q&A FAQ

Is there any difference in emphasis of conformity across SC orientations?

- An ANOVA comparing SC orientation showed:
  - $F(1, 288) = 4.675, p = .031$
  - Individuals with an Independent SC orientation: $M = 11.57, sd = 3.10$
  - Individuals with an Interdependent SC orientation: $M = 12.32, sd = 2.66$
Q&A FAQ

How many of the individuals met a clinically relevant cut-off for the PAI-BOR scale?

- Individuals with PAI-BOR score >38: 16.2%
- Individuals with PAI-BOR score <38: 83.8%


References

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Image References

Figure 1 - The BPD Informer. (Artist). (2017). BPD Art. [Digital image]. Retrieved from https://bpdinformer.wordpress.com/bpd-me/


Figure 5 – Wikimedia commons. (2014). US Map Flag. [Digital image]. Retrieved from https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:USA_Flag_Map.svg


Image References


