



Mediating Role of Self-Control in between Narcissistic Tendencies and Family Environment among Lawyers

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Abstract

The current research attempts to look into the influence of narcissistic traits, family environment, and self-control as a mediating factor in lawyers. When conducting a survey, a questionnaire was utilized to collect data using an efficient sampling approach. Data was collected through self-report measures from (N=200) participants with age range of 25 to 70 years and affiliated from private, semi government and government lawyers. To measure narcissistic characteristics in lawyers, the Narcissist Personality Inventory (NPI) (Raskin & Terry, 1988) was employed. To evaluate the family environment, the Family Communication Scale (FCS) and Family Satisfaction Scale (FSC) (Olson, 1995), as well as the Self-Control Scale (SCS) (Boone et al., 2004), were used to operationalize the construct of current study. Findings highlighted that narcissistic tendencies have indirect on family environment through self-control. The findings of the present study limited because only three variables were included and data only collected from lawyers. Researchers and legal professionals are going to benefit from this study.

Keywords: Narcissistic tendencies, family environment, self-control, lawyers

1. Introduction

However, most narcissistic individuals are different by other individuals as well as having varied characteristics and proportions (American Psychiatric Association, 1994). Narcissism is often referred to as a narcissistic personality disorder. Narcissistic persons believe they are better than others, they fantasise about their accomplishments, and they are magnificent and special in the eyes of others, deserving of extremely special treatment (Morf & Rhodewalt, 2001; Thomaes et al., 2010).

Narcissism is a personality trait characterized by grandiosity, entitlement, and a lack of empathy. Research has shown that individuals with high levels of narcissistic tendencies tend to have problematic relationships in various domains of their lives, including their families. Lawyers, in particular, are known to have high levels of narcissistic tendencies due to their competitive and stressful work environment. This study looks at how narcissistic characteristics affect lawyers' familial environments, with self-control acting as a mediating element.

According to research, people with high levels of narcissistic tendencies frequently experience conflict in their family connections as well as other areas of their lives. Due to their competitive and demanding workplaces, lawyers in particular are known to have high levels of narcissistic tendencies. This study looks at how narcissistic characteristics affect lawyers' familial environments, with self-control acting as a mediating element (Grijalva et al., 2015).

Due to the competitive and stressful nature of the legal profession, research has indicated that lawyers, when compared to other professions, exhibit higher degrees of narcissistic tendencies (Hogan et al., 2007). In fact, a study conducted in 2013 by Gini and Pozzoli discovered that lawyers had high degrees of narcissism, entitlement, and a desire for admiration.

Self-control, according to Tangney, Baumeister, and Boone (2004), is the ability to restrain one's feelings, ideas, and actions in order to achieve objectives or handle problems. According to research, people with strong self-control are better able to control their impulses, withstand temptations, and make thoughtful judgments. As it enables people to control their emotions and behaviors in the face of conflict, self-control is crucial for preserving strong family relationships.

Self-control may be able to moderate the impact of personality traits on interpersonal relationships, according to a number of studies. For instance, despite having high levels of narcissistic tendencies, those with high levels of self-control were shown to be better able to sustain positive connections with others, according to a study by Funder et al. (2012).

In conclusion, research indicates that narcissistic traits can have a detrimental effect on family dynamics, particularly in lawyers who may be more prone to them because of their profession. However, self-control may be able to mitigate this impact by helping people control their reactions to disputes, both emotionally and behaviorally. Future studies are required to deepen our understanding of the precise processes via which narcissistic characteristics affect lawyer family relationships and to create interventions that can lessen any unfavourable impacts. Research on the Narcissistic Personality Inventory, Family Environment, Belief in Virtuous Humanity, and Self-Control in Adolescents was done by Zhanga and Zhao (2020). Culture and population are different now, according to studies. Knowing the Narcissistic Personality Inventory is crucial. It is crucial to understand Pakistani married individuals' home environments, self-control, and narcissistic personality inventory.

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2. Method

2.1. Research Design

A survey method would employ a quantitative research methodology by using a questionnaire to collect data via practical sampling.

2.2. Participants

Due to the practical sampling, the sample would consist of 200 lawyers. Using G power analysis 3.1.9 for correlation (Faul et al., 2007), an a priori power analysis was carried out to ensure that the study has sufficient power for analysis or a sizable sample size. In order to account for bias and attrition, the sample size for the current study would be (200) 6 individuals added to the initial sample.

3. Measures

3.1. Narcissistic Personality Inventory

The Narcissistic Personality Inventory (NPI), developed by Raskin and Terry in 1988, measures narcissism as a personality trait in social psychological research. For the Narcissistic Personality Inventory, Raskin and Terry (1988) calculated alpha composite reliability values of .83, .74, .80, and .90. The measurement of narcissistic tendencies is accurate and dependable. There are seven subscales with 40 items total, with authority being the first subscale. In the second subscale, self-sufficiency is measured by 1, 8, 10, 11, 12, 32, 33, and 36; superiority is measured in the third subscale by 17, 21, 22, 31, 34, and 39. The fourth subscale's exhibitionism score is 4, 9, 26, 37, and 40: The fifth subscale, exploitation, is 2, 3, 7, 20, 28, 30, and 38. Sixth subscale values are 6, 13, 16, 23, and 35. Entitlement is listed as 5, 14, 18, 24, 25, and 27 on the seventh subscale. There is no reverse scoring; instead, there is plus scoring, and the score should be determined to be between 0 and 40. To succeed: Give yourself one point for each of the following questions when you responded "A": 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 21, 24, 25, 27, 29, 30, 31, 33, 34, 36, 37, 38, 39 Give yourself one point for each of the following questions where you answered "B": 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 26, 28, 32, 35, 40 Total Points.

3.2. Family Environment Scale

Family communication and family contentment are two aspects that affect the family environment. Scale of family communication Family communication was self-reported using FCS (Olson et al., 2004). Each of the 10 items has five possible answers, and the results are graded as follows. 2 = generally disagree, 1 = definitely disagree 4 = Generally Agree, 5 = Strongly Agree, and 3 = Undecided. The consistency of FSS was $\alpha = .71$, whereas FCS' dependability was $\alpha = .60$. The measure of family contentment FSS (Olson, 1995) was a self-report scale that was specifically designed to gauge how satisfied family members are with how their family is run. Higher levels of family satisfaction are measured in SWFS, which is valid and trustworthy (DeVellis, 2003).

The family happiness scale's test-retest value was .85, and its alpha value was .92. It was based on ten items, and the scoring system used a five-point Likert scale. It was based on ten items, and the scale used was a five-point system. Scale of Likert 1 denotes a great deal of dissatisfaction, 2 moderate dissatisfaction, 3 general satisfaction, 4 high satisfaction, and 5 extreme satisfaction.

3.3. Self-Control Scale

Add up all the points for the checked box, 1+2+3+4+5+6+7+8+9+10, then divide the result by 10. Its accuracy and precision in assessing adult self-control. According to Boone et al. (2004), the highest score on this scale is 5 (very self-controlled), and the lowest score is 1 (not at all self-controlled). It is used to assess adults' levels of self-control and only has 10 items on a five point Likert scale.

3.4. Procedure

I provide the participant my research instruments all at once for data collection after providing a brief explanation of the context of the study questions and tools with the assurance of confidentiality. After gathering the questionnaire, I will use SPSS to generate a data sheet, input responses, and carry out regression analysis to evaluate the primary hypothesis of the study. It should take about 30 minutes to complete the questionnaire.

4. Results

In this section, the results of the main study was highlighted.

4.1. Descriptive statistics

The same variables used for data collection were in continuous form, therefore before analyzing them, we had to transform them by comparing the lowest and maximum values. We will initially use the processes of Mean and Standard deviation to turn continuous variables into categorical variables.

Table 1: Demographic variables' mean values and standard deviations (N = 200)

| | Mean (M) | Standard Deviation (SD) | Minimum | Maximum |
|-------------------|----------|-------------------------|---------|---------|
| Age of respondent | 39.87 | 9.650 | 20 | 70 |
| Experience | 11.10 | 7.714 | 1 | 30 |

The above table demonstrates the continuous variable age has a minimum value of 20 and a maximum value of 70, with an age-related mean (39.87) and standard deviation (9.650). The third variable is experience, having a range of 1 to 30, with a mean of 11.10 and a standard deviation of 7.714. We shall categorise the continuous variables into sample demographic characteristics based on age and experience on the basis of maximum and minimum value. Table 1 demonstrates that the participants' mean ages (N=200) ranged from 20 to 70 in the current study (M=39.87, S. D=9.650), and their mean experience (N=200) ranged from 1 to 30 in the current study (M=11.10, SD=7.714).

4.2. Psychometrically Assessment

If a test shows a correlation between test results and the predicted behaviour of a theoretical trait, it has construct validity. A determination of validity is made using many sorts of evidence. We examine three scales for construct reliability and validity. The reliability and validity of familial environment, narcissistic tendencies, and self-control are all the same, just like Cronbach's alpha, RHO A, composite reliability, and average variance values. (1.000)

Table 3: Reliability analysis and Cronbach's Alpha of self-control, familial environment, and narcissistic tendencies

| | Cronbach's Alpha | rho_A | Composite Reliability | Average Variance Extracted (AVE) |
|----|------------------|-------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| FE | 1.000 | 1.000 | 1.000 | 1.000 |
| NT | 1.000 | 1.000 | 1.000 | 1.000 |
| SC | 1.000 | 1.000 | 1.000 | 1.000 |

Note. FE: Family Environment, NT: Narcissistic Tendency, SC= Self-control. Cronbach's alpha reliability of three scales is 1.000

The tables showed different types of reliabilities i.e. Cronbach's Alpha, rho_A, Composite reliability and average variance extracted. All types of reliabilities showed that scales have satisfactory reliabilities.

4.3. Factor for Variance Inflation

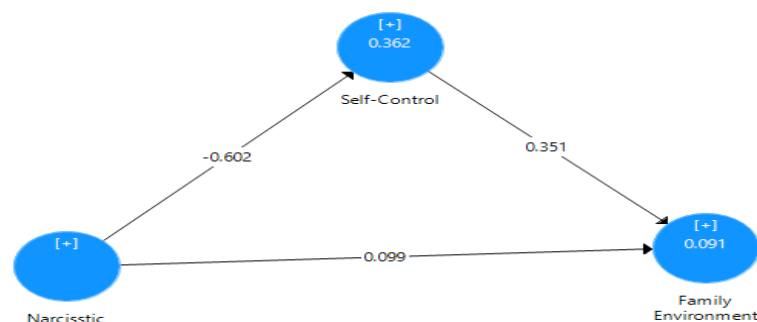


Figure = Algorithm analysis for narcissistic tendencies ,family environment and self- control

Table 7: Direct Mediation analysis between narcissistic tendencies and family environment through self-control (N=200)

| | Beta | Sample Mean (M) | Standard Deviation (STDEV) | T Statistics (o/STDEV) | P Value | LL,UL |
|---------|--------|-----------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------|-----------------|
| NT-> FE | 0.099 | 0.101 | 0.094 | 1.057 | 0.291 | -0.086 , 0.291 |
| NT-> SC | -0.602 | -0.599 | 0.074 | 8.124 | 0.000 | -0.730 , -0.450 |
| SC-> FE | 0.351 | 0.350 | 0.091 | 3.871 | 0.000 | 0.182 , 0.537 |

Note. FE: Family Environment, NT: Narcissistic Tendency, SC= Self-control.

By linking one variable to another, mediation can be demonstrated. For instance, narcissistic tendencies and family environment are two factors, and self-control can be used to create a connection between these two variables. After adjusting for the mediator, path B would no longer be significant, which would constitute "full" mediation.

If the indirect effect does not contain 0, yet the B path is still statistically significant (.05), partial mediation takes place. If the confidence interval for the indirect impact contained 0, the null hypothesis is maintained and there is no significant indirect effect or mediation. If the indirect effect didn't pass 0, it appears that you had one successful mediation model.

The above given table showed that the first path of the mediation analysis are not significantly correlated. The relationship on second path and third path i.e. relationship between self-control and narcissistic, self-control and family environment, respectively were significant.

Table 8: Mediating effects of self-control on the home environment with narcissistic tendencies (N=200)

| | Original sample (O) | Sample Mean (M) | Standard Deviation (STDEV) | T Statistics (o/STDEV) | P Value | LL,UL |
|-------------|---------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------|---------------|
| NT-> FE->SC | -0.212 | -0.212 | 0.068 | 3.095 | 0.002 | -0.373,-0.099 |

Note. FE: Family Environment, NT: Narcissistic Tendency, SC= Self-control

Findings highlighted the effect size of the mediation analysis for the first path model, which showed that NT, FE and SC have considerable impact.

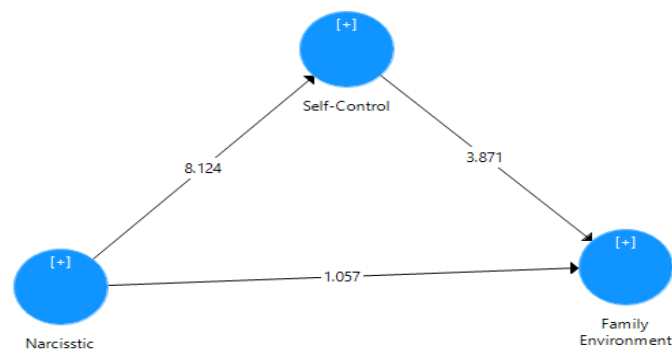


Table 9: Analyzing the variance using regression using narcissistic tendencies and self-control

| | Family Environment | | |
|----------------|--------------------|------|----------|
| Variable | B | S.E | η^2 |
| NT | .202 | .173 | .099 |
| SC | .683 | .165 | .351 |
| R ² | .091 | | |
| F | .000*** | | |

Note. FE: Family Environment, NT: Narcissistic Tendency, SC= Self-control

The beta value for narcissistic tendencies is (.099), with the mean (.202) and variance (.173). Beta value is (.351), self-control (.683), and standard deviation (.165). R² is (.091) and F is (.000***) respectively.

Table 10: Direct mediation examination of the relationship between narcissistic traits and family environment (N=200)

| | Beta | Sample Mean (M) | Standard Deviation (STDEV) | T Statistics (o/STDEV) | P Value | LL,UL |
|----------|--------|-----------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------|----------------|
| NT-> FE | 0.099 | 0.101 | 0.094 | 1.057 | 0.291 | -0.086, 0.291 |
| NT -> SC | -0.602 | -0.599 | 0.074 | 8.124 | 0.000 | -0.730, -0.450 |
| SC-> FE | 0.351 | 0.350 | 0.091 | 3.871 | 0.000 | 0.182, 0.537 |

Note. FE: Family Environment, NT: Narcissistic Tendency, SC= Self-control

The above given table showed that the first path of the mediation analysis are not significantly correlated. The relationship on second path and third path i.e. relationship between self-control and narcissistic, self-control and family environment, respectively were significant.

Table 11: Analysis of the effects of self-control on the home environment of narcissistic tendencies (N=200)

| | Original sample (O) | Sample Mean (M) | Standard Deviation (STDEV) | T Statistics (o/STDEV) | P Value | LL,UL |
|-------------|------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------|-------------------|
| NT-> FE->SC | -0.212 | -0.212 | 0.068 | 3.095 | 0.002 | -0.373,- 0.099 |

This table showed that there is significant relationship between narcissistic tendencies, family environment and self-control.

5. Discussion

Having feelings of love and adoration for oneself is referred to as narcissism. Narcissism is basically self-reflective, where a person loves themselves so much that they harm others in the process. However, there are two varieties of narcissism: healthy narcissism and pathological narcissism, so damage is not always done.

When a person has a realistic and appropriate assessment of their qualities, accomplishments, and traits, this leads to healthy or positive narcissism, whereas a false perception of one's qualities and accomplishments leads to negative or pathological narcissism. These people base their perceptions of their own self-worth and self-esteem on fantasies rather than actual facts. A narcissistic individual has anxiety and uses fantasy as well as dysfunctional and immature behaviours as a form of coping. The anxiety a narcissist person experiences is what haunts them, not their guilt. He looks for a purpose in life rather than imposing his own convictions on others (Bentley, 2005). Since practising law is regarded as the most challenging job and calls for strong social and interpersonal abilities, narcissistic tendencies in lawyers were looked into in the current study. In the current study, narcissistic tendencies were evaluated in lawyers. Since lawyers are expected to have an authoritative personality, it was investigated whether this professional requirement had any effect on the participants' personalities. Lawyers were chosen for this study because they are at risk of developing narcissistic tendencies because they are expected to have these traits.

Additionally, family environment In terms of physical, psychological, sexual, emotional, and social development, adulthood is a time of many changes. Adulthood, in particular, speaks to the period of development of coping mechanisms, the emergence of risk or chance pathways, and the beginning of the fulfilment of one's future life course (Jhonson et al., 2019). Young adults who begin their working careers go through significant life transitions that are rooted in shifting social contexts. These milestones, including as graduating from high school, leaving the house, starting a career, getting married, and having children, are influenced by psychological health prior to these events, which in turn affects subsequent emotional health.

In this article, we'll talk about self-control in lawyers because their lives are quite demanding. Self-control is the ability to change one's own feelings and actions. As such, it is essential to both adaptive success and virtuous behavior, particularly insofar as the latter calls for abiding by societal norms rather than pursuing egocentric objectives. According to recent research, mental fortitude is like physical fortitude in that it weakens after use, recovers during rest, and gradually improves with continued use. It has several connections to personal wellbeing and lessened social issues. Since the self-control theory is more motivating for recent research on the causes of crime and dishonesty, numerous theories have gained popularity over the past two years (Gottfredson & Hirschi, 1990).

Another study confirmed that unhealthy narcissism results in poor interpersonal relationships. People find it challenging to build and sustain relationships with narcissists because of their attitude, and as a result, their social circle likewise becomes smaller (Campbell, 2002).

The results also indicated a positive association between narcissistic tendencies and self-control, a negative correlation between self-control and family environment, and a positive correlation between self-control and family environment. Narcissistic inclinations and self-control have a connection of (-.602**) while self-control and family environment have a correlation of (-.112). Self-control is measured on the second scale, where a correlation between self-control and family environment is (.292**). The (Raskin & Hall, 1981) study found a link between extraversion and NPI that was positive.

6. Conclusion

This study emphasises how lawyers' self-control acts as a buffer between narcissistic tendencies and the home environment. This study appears to be crucial for lawyers to comprehend in terms of potential public relations effects how the family attitude affects lawyers' lives both favorably and unfavorably. This study clarifies how narcissistic characteristics affect lawyers' family lives, self-control, and self-control. The overall findings of this

study showed that there is no significant difference in family environment (FES) on experience, but there is a significant difference in narcissistic tendencies (NPI) and self-control (SCS) on experience.

6.1. Limitation/Suggestions

- During analysis and discussion, it is suggested that some of the research's limitations be solved in order to broaden the scope of this important piece of work.
- It is advised that some of the research's limitations be resolved through analysis and discussion in order to widen the scope of this significant piece of work.
- It is important to hold awareness campaigns to educate the public and lawyers alike about narcissistic tendencies, how they affect a lawyer's personality, and constructive coping mechanisms. Due to the fact that this study was limited to lawyers, it would be highly beneficial to perform a parallel study with adults to examine the variations in family ties among lawyers in Pakistan's various areas.

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