

PERCEIVED REJECTION IN PERSONALITY PSYCHOPATHOLOGY: THE ROLE
OF ATTACHMENT & GENDER

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ABSTRACT

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With the introduction of the Alternative Model for Personality Disorders (AMPD) in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 5th Edition (DSM-5), researchers have become better able to investigate specific personality traits across personality psychopathology. Prior research suggests that individuals with higher rates of personality psychopathology are more likely to endorse insecure attachment patterns which can lead to stronger reactions towards perceived rejection. This study investigated how attachment style and gender moderate the strength of the association between personality psychopathology and reactions to perceived rejection.

To examine the role of attachment and gender in the relationship between personality psychopathology and reactions to perceived rejection, an undergraduate sample of 150 students, as well as a funded Amazon Mechanical Turk (MTurk) sample of 278 individuals completed various psychometrically supported personality and attachment self-report measures and then watched three video clips addressing rejection from parents, peers, and romantic partners. Participants were asked to complete a short survey that measured their emotional status and level of reaction to the video stimuli. Analyses of variance and moderation effects suggested that attachment patterns inconsistently moderate maladaptive reactions to rejection, and that gender moderates the relationship between personality psychopathology and externalizing reactions to rejection.

Keywords: Personality Psychopathology, Rejection, Attachment, Gender

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CHAPTER I

Introduction

Purpose of the Study

Attachment abnormalities are moderating factors in the development of psychopathology and problem behavior from childhood into adulthood (Cassidy et al., 2013; Main, 1996; Kochanska et al., 2009). Reactions to perceived feelings of abandonment are often linked to intimate partner aggression and other forms of violence in adulthood (Goodnight et al., 2017). Moreover, abnormal attachment has been associated with the development of personality psychopathology (Neuman, 2017; Levy, 2015; Cohen, 2017); however, maladaptive attachment styles' influence on personality psychopathology is usually only studied within the context of Borderline Personality Disorder (BPD; Agrawal et al., 2004; Scott et al., 2017; Levy et al., 2005). More recently, through the introduction of the Alternative Model for Personality Disorders (AMPD) in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 5th Edition (DSM-5), abandonment fears have been described within the personality trait "Separation Insecurity", which describes excessive fears of being alone due to rejection by and/or separation from significant others (American Psychiatric Association; APA, 2013). This more distinct attachment addition to personality psychopathology makes a more direct study of the role of attachment insecurity across personality psychopathology possible. Therefore, the current study will assess the role of maladaptive attachment in personality psychopathology, and differences in expression of separation insecurity between genders.

Literature Review

Attachment.

Theoretical Framework. Maladaptive attachment is a factor often implicated in the development of psychopathology. As stated by Cassidy, Jones and Shaver (2013), “The precursors of emotional disorders and delinquency could be found in early attachment-related experiences, specifically separations from, or inconsistent or harsh treatment by, mothers (and often fathers or other men who were involved with the mothers).” They further explained that early attachment inconsistencies influence the development of the HPA axis, which is involved with emotional regulation and stress responses. Chronic activation of the HPA axis due to stress may lead to irregularities in the neurological networks that manage emotion regulation. This in turn may lead to greater levels of emotion dysregulation, which increases a person’s vulnerability for developing psychopathology (Cassidy et al., 2013). In other words, attachment and development of insecure relationships is heavily involved in levels of psychopathology in adulthood.

Many researchers have examined attachment and its consequences on behavior, but Mary Ainsworth, and later Mary Main, distinguished four main attachment styles observed in infancy through The Strange Situation (Ainsworth & Bell, 1970). Ainsworth’s Strange Situation was conducted by observing an infant’s reaction as their mother left the room for a period of time before returning. She found that infants reacted in one of three ways which she defined as secure, avoidant, or resistant-ambivalent reactions. “Secure” infants returned to play after greeting their mother; “avoidant” infants appeared to be dismissive of the mother’s return; and “resistant-ambivalent” infants

became markedly angry or dismissive of their mother's return, and had difficulty returning to play. A fourth reaction style of "disorganization" was later defined by Mary Main (1996), wherein children displayed an array of conflicting emotions upon their mother's return, often freezing in activity and rising to greet their mothers only to fall back in a prone position. This fourth attachment style has been found to be most closely associated with a risk for developing psychopathology (Carlson, 1995; Lyons-Ruth, 1996; Main, 1996).

Importantly, attachment research has also examined the stability of attachment patterns into adulthood. Hazan & Shaver (1987) suggested that attachment styles developed during childhood are often reflected across relationships and into adulthood. Scharfe & Bartholomew (1994) further supported this theory in their meta-analytic study of longitudinal research on attachment. They found that adult attachment patterns remain relatively stable and are not as susceptible to change through life events as originally supposed. Consistent with these findings, Brennan et al. (1998) transformed the attachment styles suggested by Ainsworth and Main into adult versions signified by "secure", "dismissing" in the place of avoidant, "preoccupied" in the place of resistant-ambivalent, and "fearful" in the place of disorganized.

Differences in Expression of Attachment Insecurities Between Gender. Studies of attachment have thus far focused on elucidating the link between insecure styles and pathological behaviors. However, a small portion of studies have examined the difference in expression of attachment insecurity between gender in childhood. Fearon and colleague's (2010) meta-analytic review of studies observing the effect of insecure attachment styles on externalizing behaviors found that boys with disorganized

attachment patterns demonstrated a stronger tendency towards externalizing behavior than girls with the same attachment style. This finding further supported Renken and colleagues' (1989) finding that attachment insecurity was often manifested in externalizing problems for boys, but not for girls.

DeKlyen and Greenberg (2008) argued that insecure styles would be more strongly related to internalizing symptoms in girls rather than boys. However, Groh and colleague's (2012) meta-analytic review of studies concerning insecure attachment and internalizing symptoms found no difference between gender. Specifically, they found that the relationship between insecure attachment styles and internalizing symptoms was equally strong between boys and girls. However, research has largely focused on attachment's effect on externalizing behavior rather than internalizing symptoms. Furthermore, research has been limited to gender differences between children. Future research will need to examine this potential relationship in adults before generalizations can be made.

Personality Psychopathology.

Perspectives of Personality Psychopathology and Associated Dysfunction.

Personality psychopathology results from various constellations of personality traits that lead to maladaptive patterns of behavior (Mayo Clinic, 2016). Personality disorders (PDs) lead to impairment in a variety of areas ranging from increased hospitalization (Bender et al., 2001), criminality (Johnson et al., 2000), to occupational and interpersonal impairment, such as the ability to maintain steady employment or have stable relationships (Skodol et al., 2002; Mayo Clinic, 2016). The various editions of the DSM have used a categorical model to conceptualize personality psychopathology, where a

certain quota of symptoms must be reached before a personality disorder can be diagnosed. Indeed, the DSM-5 has maintained the categorical model as the primary method for PD diagnosis but proposed the Alternative Model for Personality Disorder (AMPD) in Section III of the manual consisting of emerging models and measures (APA, 2013).

The proposed model takes a dimensional, trait-based approach to diagnosing personality psychopathology. Research to date has suggested that PDs exist on a continuum and are better explained as various presentations of trait constellations rather than separate entities (Clark, 2007; Kotov et al., 2017). Therefore, the AMPD was introduced as a step towards a dimensional conceptualization of personality that has long been recommended by researchers (Krueger & Markon, 2013). This hybrid dimensional-categorical model defines personality psychopathology as a combination of deficits in personality functioning and pathological personality traits (APA, 2013). The AMPD considers impairment in identity, self-direction, empathy, and intimacy in an individual (Criterion A of the model), as well as the presence of various traits falling under five higher-order trait dimensions of Negative Affectivity, Detachment, Antagonism, Disinhibition and Psychoticism (Criterion B of the model; APA, 2013). Furthermore, the AMPD retained Antisocial PD (ASPD), Avoidant PD (APD), BPD, Narcissistic PD (NPD), Obsessive-Compulsive PD (OCPD), and Schizotypal PD (SPD) and proposed their diagnosis be based on impairment in self or interpersonal functioning (Criterion A) in addition to the presence of trait facets indicative of the specific PD (Criterion B). Although research on this model is growing (see Krueger & Markon, 2014 and Al-Dajani, Gralnick & Bagby, 2015 for reviews), limited work has examined attachment and

relationship functioning using the AMPD trait model. A full list of the proposed traits can be seen in Table 1.

Table 1.

Trait Domains and Facets in the DSM-5 AMPD

Negative Affectivity	Detachment	Antagonism	Disinhibition	Psychoticism
Emotional Lability	Withdrawal	Manipulativeness	Irresponsibility	Unusual Beliefs & Experiences
Anxiousness	Intimacy Avoidance	Deceitfulness	Impulsivity	Eccentricity
Separation Insecurity	Anhedonia	Grandiosity	Distractibility	Perceptual Dysregulation
Submissiveness	Depressivity	Attention Seeking	Risk Taking	
Hostility	Restricted Affectivity	Callousness	Rigid Perfectionism	
Perseveration	Suspiciousness			

As suggested within the AMPD, individuals with PD symptoms exhibit increased levels of functional impairment, often in the areas of self-perception or interpersonal activities (Harfold et al., 2013; South et al., 2008; Creswell et al., 2016). Indeed, most PDs (Avoidant PD being the exception) are associated with higher rates of divorce (Disney et al., 2012), and BPD and Dependent PD (DPD; a PD characterized by a pattern of submissive and clinging behavior related to an excessive need of being taken care of) specifically have been associated with lower levels of marital satisfaction (APA, 2013; South et al., 2008). Outside of romantic relationships, PDs are also associated with interpersonal difficulties in the workplace (Ettner et al., 2011), poor social functioning

(Grant et al., 2004), and causing increased distress for those around them (Jackson & Burgess, 2002; Miller, Campbell, & Polkonis, 2007).

In addition, PDs are associated with impairment stemming from externalizing dysfunction as well. For instance, numerous PDs are associated with increased levels of substance abuse and dependence (Agrawal et al., 2013), antisocial behavior (Harfold et al., 2013; Johnson et al., 2000), and aggression (McMurrin & Howard, 2009). Although less extensively studied, PD traits from the perspective of the DSM-5 AMPD have also predicted increased levels of externalizing. For instance, Antagonism and Negative Affectivity were highly related to aggressive tendencies (Dunne, Gilbert, & Daffern, 2018), and Antagonism and Disinhibition were associated with increased problematic alcohol use (Creswell et al., 2016). Taken together, previous work suggests that symptoms of personality psychopathology can lead to a variety of functional impairment deficits, including interpersonal dysfunction and maladaptive externalizing behaviors.

Differences in Expression of Personality Psychopathology Between Gender. It has been suggested that PDs tend to differ in their rate of diagnosis between genders (Paris, 2004; Crobitt & Widiger, 1995; Fowler et al., 2007). Gawda & Czubak (2017) found that when personality psychopathology is present, men's symptoms tend to cluster in the antisocial, schizotypal, and schizoid diagnoses, whereas women's symptoms tend to cluster in the avoidant, dependent, depressive, and borderline domains. Of note, these gender-based symptom constellations do not adhere to the "personality clusters" suggested by the current taxonomy of the DSM-5.

Gawda & Czubak's findings were consistent with previous literature on gender differences within PDs and support theories suggesting that the differentiation in PD

symptom presentation and overall diagnosis rates in gender could be the result of the differing biological, evolutionary and (westernized) societal profiles men and women hold (Buss, 2009; Gawda & Czubak, 2017). Biologically, men possess higher levels of testosterone than women, which is a hormone correlated with increased levels of dominance and aggression (Johnson, Leedom, & Muhtadie, 2012). When personality becomes pathological, men may therefore be more likely to express externalizing and aggressive behaviors, which could result in a stronger association between men and diagnosis of PDs such as ASPD. Evolutionary and sociality theories suggest that personality traits reflect different strategies to adapt to environmental demands (Buss, 2009; Gawda & Czubak, 2017). From this perspective it seems possible that men and women with personality psychopathology will be intrinsically more likely to gravitate towards traits that are strategically adaptable to their evolutionary roles, such as domineering and aggressive traits for men, and dependent or avoidant traits for women.

Research into gender differences between specific personality psychopathology presentations has tended to focus predominately on “Cluster B” PDs, such as BPD, ASPD, and NPD. Though research outside of Cluster B PDs is scarce, a study of DPD by Disney (2013) suggested that within the United States, DPD is diagnosed more frequently in females, potentially due to the western traditional roles men and women are likely to hold in the household. However, studies have shown that men with DPD are more likely to commit spousal abuse or uxoricide (wife murder) than their female counterparts (Loas et al., 2011; Berk & Rhodes, 2005; Dutton, 2002). As DPD is a disorder that involves excessive dependence on those around the individual, and fears of abandonment, these studies suggest that men react in more externalizing ways than women to these emotions.

With respect to BPD, and consistent with the broader psychopathology literature, women have been found to express more internalizing symptoms, whereas men are more likely to express externalizing symptoms (Sansone et al., 2011). Men diagnosed with BPD have higher levels of comorbidity with ASPD, while women with and without BPD are diagnosed with ASPD significantly less than men, at a ratio of 1:3 (Alegria et al., 2013). Once again, it appears that when Separation Insecurity is present, men tend to demonstrate externalizing and at times aggressive reactions to this pathological insecurity, whereas women trend more towards internalizing reactions.

Attachment and Personality Psychopathology. Also relevant to the current study are the relationships between maladaptive attachment patterns and symptoms of personality psychopathology. A robust amount of research has suggested that children who display a disorganized attachment style are most at risk for developing later psychopathology and externalizing behaviors, including antisocial behavior and psychopathic traits (Main, 1998; Conradi et al., 2016; Kochanska et al., 2009; Fearon et al., 2010; Groh et al., 2012). Some researchers have even suggested that attachment insecurity acts as a mediator between childhood maltreatment and adult personality pathology (Conradi, 2017; Neumann, 2017). Previous research has also found strong associations between various patterns of insecure attachment and each personality disorder contained within the DSM-IV and DSM-5 (Bakermans-Kranenburg & van IJzendoorn, 2009; Levy, 2005). Insecure attachment styles have also been found to be strongly related to the severity of general personality dysfunction within PDs (e.g., Hengartner et al. 2015). This suggests attachment plays a key role in both the psychogenesis and stability of PDs symptoms, particularly in the domain of interpersonal

dysfunction. Chiesa et al. (2017) further assessed the impact of attachment on personality psychopathology through an analysis of categorical and dimensional models of PDs. Their findings suggested attachment is correlated with the presence of personality pathology in both categorical and dimensional models of PD, but that the dimensional model more accurately captures its presence. Furthermore, they found that attachment is not specifically associated with a particular PD when psychiatric distress (the experience of negative emotions that impact an individual's level of functioning; Arvidsdotter et al., 2016) is present, providing further supporting attachment insecurity as a latent feature of overall personality psychopathology rather than a symptom of a specific disorder (Levy, Johnson, Clouthier, Scala, & Temes, 2015).

Nonetheless, previous work has also examined attachment styles in relation to specific PD diagnoses, with BPD being studied to the greatest extent. Broadly, attachment insecurity has been found to lead to an impairment in acknowledging and appropriately setting boundaries in persons with BPD (Beeney et al., 2015), and disrupted mentalization (Fossati et al., 2014). Levy and colleagues (2005) further examined attachment styles and their consequences in BPD and found that BPD patients typically clustered into avoidant, preoccupied, and fearful avoidant patterns. Those characterized by the avoidant style were more prone to inappropriate anger, suggestive of affective lability symptomology. The group characterized by a preoccupied style expressed increased behavior reactions to real or imagined abandonment, such as suicidal gestures or the engagement in unstable relationships. Finally, the fearfully preoccupied group had higher ratings of identity disturbance, characterized by a pervasive instability of self-image, often resulting in excessive self-criticism, lack of direction, chronic feelings of

loneliness, and dissociative states under stress (Gold & Kyratsous, 2017; Levy et al., 2005). Scott et al. (2017) found that increased feelings of perceived abandonment led to higher levels of negative affectivity in BPD patients. Higher levels of negative affectivity in turn resulted in higher levels of aggression among this population. This further supports the role of attachment insecurity in the augmentation of BPD symptom severity. Though research into the role of attachment in PDs outside of BPD is relatively scarce, some previous work has also demonstrated that persons with ASPD were more likely to demonstrate dismissing or preoccupied/unresolved attachment patterns (Bakermans-Kranenburg et al., 2018). This finding, while solitary, suggests that preoccupied attachment style may be a shared variable underlying both ASPD and BPD.

The studies above support what can be seen within the DSM-5 in both the existing categorical and proposed hybrid dimensional-categorical PD models. Outside of BPD, the categorical model includes elements of attachment in its descriptions of dependent, avoidant, and schizotypal PDs (APA, 2013). Section III's proposed model also includes attachment language within its impairment criteria (Criterion A) for all PDs. In addition, within the domains of both Negative Affectivity and Detachment, the traits of Separation Insecurity and Intimacy Avoidance appear to be directly related to attachment insecurity (APA, 2013).

Rejection. Pronounced emotional reactions to perceived rejection are thought to be intrinsic to the human condition and can be traced back to the beginnings of human evolution (Leary, 2015). Leary suggests this is due to the fact that early humans were reliant on group living in order to ensure survival and reproduction. It is therefore likely that humans have been conditioned to avoid and react negatively to rejection as it directly

thwarts their intrinsic sense of safety. Indeed, this theory is reflected in the neurobiology of rejection as outlined by Eisenberger and colleagues in their 2003 study on the neural mechanisms of social pain. They found that the dorsal anterior cingulate cortex (dACC) and anterior insula, neural regions associated with the detection and processing of physical pain, are activated during rejection experiences (Eisenberger, Lieberman, and Williams; 2003). This suggests that individuals are physiologically and emotionally primed to experience significant negative reactions to rejection due to our evolutionary foundations.

Although rejection appears to trigger pronounced reactions in individuals regardless of mental illness, research has also suggested that personality psychopathology influences the way in which an individual reacts to rejection. A study by Meyer, Ajchenbrenner, and Bowles (2005) found that both APD and BPD were both associated with temperamental sensitivity. However, individuals with BPD were found to be more likely to exhibit enhanced negative emotions such as anxiety, anger, and sadness in response to rejection-related situations, whereas individuals with APD were more likely to exhibit pessimistic cognitive-affective responses. In short, BPD traits were related to stronger behavioral-affective reactions when confronted with rejection situations, whereas APD traits were related to a stronger cognitive-affective response leading to anxious or avoidant reactions.

The above research suggests that rejection is universally emotionally evocative, and that personality psychopathology may influence the way in which individuals respond to perceived or actual rejection. Additionally, a study by DeWall and colleagues (2011) suggested that specific attachment styles influence responses to rejection at the

neuronal level. Given the strong connection between personality psychopathology, attachment, and reactions to rejection, it seems likely that a further investigation of the interplay between these variables may further delineate how personality and attachment influence behavior.

Current Study

A preponderance of research has linked early experiences of disrupted or insufficient caregiver attachment to later development of psychopathology (Cassidy et al., 2013; Ainsworth & Bell, 1970, Main, 1996). Research further supports the stability of attachment styles developed in childhood into adulthood (Hazan & Shaver, 1987). These various forms of attachment insecurity (fearful, preoccupied, and dismissing) are often observed within a range of personality psychopathology (Conradi, 2017; Neumann, 2017; Agrawal et al., 2004). The current study will assess the potential moderating effect of attachment style on the relationship between an individual's personality psychopathology and their reactions to perceived rejection.

A general overview of personality psychopathology suggests that men exhibit more externalizing traits than women, such as aggression and antisocial behavior, whereas women exhibit internalizing traits such as anxiety and depressivity (Gawda & Czubak, 2017). However, relatively little research has elucidated whether personality traits are simply different reactions to common underlying traits such as attachment dysfunction or an unstable perception of self. Disney's (2013) review of DPD suggested that the underlying fear of abandonment manifested different reactions from men than women. Specifically, it appears that men with DPD are more likely to respond aggressively to their fears of abandonment in comparison to women with DPD. This

suggests that fear of rejection or abandonment, conceptualized within the Separation Insecurity trait facet, may be expressed differently between genders, leading to differences in PD symptom expressions. Furthermore, research focusing on PDs and aggression has suggested that personality traits such as Grandiosity, Emotional Lability, and Separation Insecurity, are more predictive of violence than traits such as Callousness and Emotional Detachment (Dunne et al., 2018; Weinstein et al., 2012). These findings suggest that Separation Insecurity may play a large role in more severe forms of personality dysfunction and impairment. The current study assessed the presence of Separation Insecurity across PDs, as well investigated how its presentation varies among genders.

The dimensional model (as found in the DSM-5 AMPD) has allowed researchers to reconceptualize personality psychopathology as diverse constellations of traits rather than distinct and separate disorders. Although the categorical model of PDs relegates fear of abandonment (or separation insecurity in the AMPD) to BPD and DPD, it seems likely that it exists and influences trait expressions across the broader spectrum of personality psychopathology. The above research suggests that Separation Insecurity may also manifest differently between genders. Therefore, the current study aimed to identify how Separation Insecurity manifested within different pathological personality traits, and how gender influenced its expression. As separation insecurity is broadly defined as both the fear of rejection or separation from a significant other, and the fear of excessive dependency on a significant other, it appears that it can be found within both preoccupied and fearful attachment styles. Therefore, this study specifically assessed the endorsed

reactions to perceived rejection among participants who express a preoccupied or fearful attachment style and contrasted these reactions with their gender and personality traits.

Hypotheses. The following hypotheses outline the expected findings of the major research questions that were investigated.

- 1) Individuals who demonstrate higher levels of pathological personality traits will be more likely to endorse insecure attachment styles than individuals demonstrating lower levels of personality dysfunction.
 - a. The greatest differences between secure and insecure attachment styles will be found in those with higher levels of Separation Insecurity (as assessed by the PID-5-SF)
- 2) Participants with greater levels of personality psychopathology, particularly individuals that exhibit greater levels of the trait Separation Insecurity, will have stronger reactions to perceived rejection.
 - a. Individuals who demonstrate a higher level of personality psychopathology and fall within the preoccupied and fearful realms of attachment will endorse more maladaptive (externalizing or internalizing) responses to perceived rejection.
 - b. Men demonstrating higher levels of personality psychopathology who also fall within the preoccupied and fearful realms of attachment will be more likely to endorse externalizing and aggressive reactions to perceived rejection than women demonstrating higher levels of personality psychopathology, including women who fall within the preoccupied and fearful realms.

A visual representation of the hypothesized model can be seen in Figure 1.

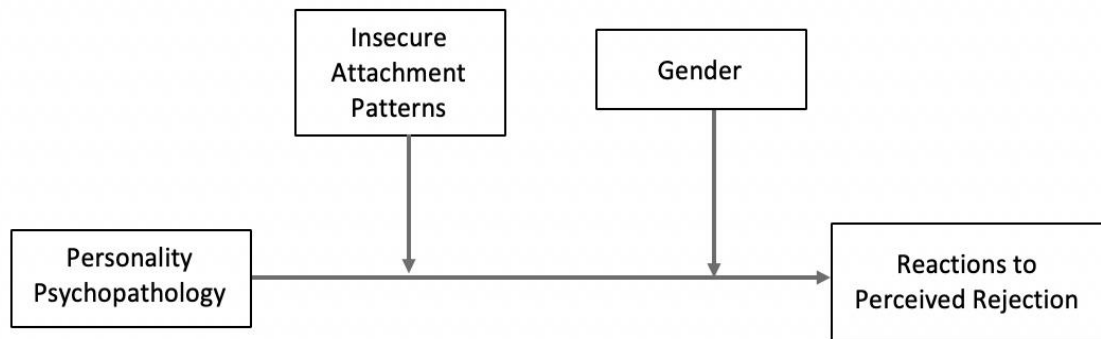


Figure 1. The proposed moderation model for the current study

CHAPTER II

Methods

Participants

The current study used both an undergraduate sample ($n = 155$) and an Amazon Mechanical Turk (MTurk) sample ($n = 278$). G*Power analysis suggested a sample of 259 to 400 participants would be necessary to capture a small-medium ($n = 259$) to medium ($n = 400$) effect. An undergraduate sample was collected from the Sam Houston State University online student recruitment system. Undergraduate students received one course credit for one of their psychology courses.

Three hundred and twenty responses were collected from Sam Houston State University, 165 of which were removed after a validity check. Of the remaining 155 participants, 8.3% identified as male, 89.8% identified as female, and .6% identified as non-binary. Ages ranged from 18 to 49 ($M = 20.48$; $SD = 3.86$), and 47.8% identified as Caucasian, 24.8% as Hispanic/Latinx, 19.7% as African American, 3.2% as Asian, and 3.2% as “other” (responses included “mixed”, “Caucasian/Native American” and “multi-ethnic”). Of the sample, 80.3% reported being straight/heterosexual, 15.9% identified as bisexual, .6% as lesbian, and .6% as gay. 70.7% reported their highest level of education as high school, 22.9% indicated an associates or technical degree, and 5.1% indicated that they had received a bachelor’s degree. Within the undergraduate sample, 25.5% indicated they had previously been diagnosed with a mental illness and 55.4% indicated someone close to them had been diagnosed with a mental illness at some point in their lives.

The MTurk sample was recruited online through the MTurk system and received \$1.50 USD for their participation after confirming response validity. One thousand

responses were collected; however, 722 were removed after a validity check. Of the remaining 278 participants in the MTurk sample, 59.3% identified as female, 39.3% as male, and .4% as non-binary. Ages ranged from 19 to 75 ($M = 36.70$; $SD = 12.08$), and 68.9% identified as Caucasian, 10.4% as Asian, 10% as African American, 6.4% as Hispanic/Latinx, .7% as Pacific Islander, .4% as Native American, and 2.5% as “Other” (answers included .4% Middle Eastern, .4% European, .4% African European, and .7% “Mixed”). Of the sample, 81.4% identified as straight/heterosexual, 10.7% identified as bisexual, 3.2% as lesbian, 2.5% as gay, .4% as demisexual/polyamorous, and .4% as fluid. 38.2% of participants reported their highest level of education achieved as a bachelor’s degree, 23.9% as high school, 18.6% as an associates or technical degree, 15% as a master’s degree, and 3.6% a doctorate. Of the sample, 25.4% reported being diagnosed with a mental illness and 56.4% reported someone close to them as being diagnosed with a mental illness. Samples were then combined and analyzed together ($n = 433$).

Procedures

All measures and video stimuli were administered via Qualtrics software. Participants completed self-report questionnaires, followed by video clips representative of parental, social, and romantic rejection (described below) in a randomized order. Each clip was between 1:15 to 1:45 minutes long. After each clip, participants were asked to answer questions related to mood and the level to which they could relate to the video. After participants completed the associated questions for each video, they were shown one of three short comical video clips before the next rejection video was shown. Each comical clip was between 1 minute to 1:45 minutes long.

Measures

Self-Report Questionnaires. Several self-report questionnaires were administered online to each participant. Descriptive statistics for these measures are shown in Table C1. These included:

Demographic Questionnaire. In order to gather information on how participants identify themselves within the population, participants were asked to complete a brief survey that asked various demographic questions such as age, ethnicity, gender, and sexual orientation. This survey is included in Appendix A.

Personality Inventory for DSM-5 Short Form (PID-5-SF). In order to examine pathological personality traits, participants were administered the PID-5-SF (APA, 2013; Maples et al., 2015). The PID-5-SF is a 100-item self-report questionnaire that was developed from the original 220-item PID-5 (APA, 2013; Kreuger et al., 2012) to measure aspects of personality based on the model proposed within the AMPD. The instrument measures the 25 core elements of personality that form the five trait domains of negative affect, disinhibition, antagonism, detachment, and psychoticism and the underlying trait facets. Each item is rated on a 4-point scale ranging from 0 (very false or often false) to 3 (very true or often true). Prior research supports the PID-5-SF's internal consistency, factor structure, and concurrent and external validity (see Maples et al., 2015 for a review). For this sample, the internal consistencies were acceptable (Negative Affectivity $\alpha = .91$; Detachment $\alpha = .90$; Antagonism $\alpha = .90$; Disinhibition $\alpha = .90$; Psychoticism $\alpha = .90$), as were all trait facets ($\alpha = .74$ [Irresponsibility] - $.90$ [Anxiousness]).

The Experiences in Close Relationships Questionnaire (ECR). In order to examine attachment styles within romantic relationships, participants were administered the ECR (Brennan, Clark, & Shaver, 1998). The ECR is a two-dimensional scale that measures adult attachment styles. 18-items measure anxiety about rejection and abandonment and 18-items measure avoidance of intimacy. The 36 items are scored on a 7-point Likert-scale ranging from 1 (Strongly Disagree) to 7 (Strongly Agree). Ward's hierarchical cluster analysis (1963) revealed that responses cluster into the four groups of "secure" (indicated by low scores on both subscales), "fearful" (indicated by high scores on both subscales), "preoccupied" (high scores on the Anxiety subscale, low scores on the Avoidance subscale), and "dismissing" (high scores on Avoidance and low scores on Anxiety subscales). This study yielded Cronbach's alphas for the Anxiety and Avoidance subscales of .93 and .95 respectively. Previous research has suggested that the two subscales only share a correlation of .11 suggesting they are measuring two distinct constructs within attachment (Brennan et al., 1998).

Post Video Survey. In order to examine reactions to the video stimuli, a short survey was designed that participants completed after each video clip. The survey consisted of 4 items. The first item asked participants to indicate whether they had experienced a situation similar to what was presented in the clip. The second item asked participants to rate the degree to which they could empathize with the protagonist of the clip, rated on 5-point Likert-scale ranging from 1, "Not at all", to 5 "Extremely". The third item asked participants to rate their experience of seven different emotions after viewing the clip on a scale of 1, "Not Feeling" to 5 "Definitely Feeling". The final item required participants to rate the likelihood of engaging in eleven types of reaction

behaviors if they were the protagonist of the clip. Within this item, four behaviors included were externalizing in nature (e.g. “Instigate a physical fight”), four were internalizing (e.g. “Avoid friends and family”), and three were normative (e.g. “Cry”). After data collection, these behaviors were grouped and participants received an average score for their externalizing, internalizing, and normative reactions for each type of rejection (parental, peer, and romantic). These averages were then combined to demonstrate participants’ average externalizing, internalizing, and normative reactions to generalized rejection. The survey is included in Appendix B.

Validity Indicator. As none of the measures used included validity scales, six validity items were included throughout the measures used in order to ensure participants were purposefully responding to the item content. These items were written as universal statements that prompt majority agreement. An example of a validity item used is “I am only friends with people born in August”. Individuals who endorsed two or more of these items were removed from the analyses.

Stimulus Materials

Three videos were shown to participants in randomized order followed by the measures listed above. These three videos represent parental, peer, and romantic rejection. The videos were selected based on analyses from a pilot study of 214 undergraduate students in two separate lecture courses. Two video clips for each type of rejection (six in total) were shown to the first course in a randomized order, after which participants were asked to rate the degree to which they could empathize with the character in the clip and indicate to what degree they were experiencing feelings of depression, anxiety, anger, amusement, abandonment, excitement, and rejection. The

survey used is included in Appendix B. The second group of participants viewed the videos in reverse order. The mean responses for empathy and each emotion category were compared and the video clip for each style of rejection that received the highest scores on ability to empathize, feelings of rejection, abandonment, and the lowest scores on feelings of amusement were selected.

The following three videos were shown to participants in randomized order followed by the measures listed below. The clip selected to represent parental rejection is a scene from “Fresh Prince of Bel Air” in which the character Will’s father backs out of a “father and son” trip at the last minute. The clip selected to represent peer rejection is a scene from “The Help.” During the scene, Bryce Dallas Howard’s character is blatantly ignored by a group of women hosting a social luncheon. The clip selected to depict romantic rejection is a scene from “Valentine’s Day”. During the scene, Ashton Kutcher’s character returns home to find his fiancé in the middle of packing her things to leave him. After each video clip and measure administration, a brief comical video was shown to help return participants to baseline. The video clips were approximately 1 minute and 30 seconds in length and involved various animals doing comical things. These clips were randomized between the three rejection clips.

Statistical Analyses

Regarding my first hypothesis that higher levels of personality psychopathology are related to insecure attachment styles (preoccupied, dismissing, and fearful), one-way MANOVAs were used to compare the differences between the four attachment patterns (measured first via the ECR, and second via the ECR-RS) and each of the personality trait domains (measured via the PID-5-SF). An additional MANOVA was used to

compare differences between the four attachment patterns and all personality trait domains at once. A Bonferroni Correction was used to control for family wise error. Therefore, the adjusted p-value was set at .001. Furthermore, within the trait domains that showed significant differences across insecure attachment patterns, ANOVA/t-tests were used to examine the association between specific trait facets and attachment patterns.

Regarding my second hypothesis, that higher levels of personality psychopathology would be associated with stronger reactions to perceived abandonment, Pearson correlation analyses were used to assess the association between the presence of pathological traits (via the PID-5-SF) and responses to the video stimuli. Pearson correlation analyses were run between scores on the PID-5-SF in relation to survey responses on each video, as well as to participants' overall mean response to the three videos.

Regarding hypothesis 2a, that there would be a moderating effect of attachment pattern on the strength of the relationship between high levels of personality psychopathology and reactions to perceived rejection, a multiple moderation regression (MMR; Aguinis, 2004) was conducted using attachment patterns (measured through the ECR) as the moderating variable in the relationship between personality psychopathology (measured via the PID-5-SF) and reactions to perceived rejection (measured via responses to the post video survey). Attachment patterns were dummy coded for analysis.

Finally, regarding hypothesis 2b, that there would be a moderating effect of gender on the strength of the relationship between high levels of personality psychopathology and reactions to perceived rejection, a second MMR was conducted

using gender as the moderating variable in the relationship between personality psychopathology and reactions to perceived rejection.

CHAPTER III

Results

Comparisons of Personality Traits and Attachment Styles

To address the first hypothesis as to whether higher levels of pathological personality traits will be related to likelihood to endorse insecure attachment styles, a one-way MANOVA was conducted with a Bonferroni corrected alpha of $p < .001$ due to an increased possibility for Type I error due the number of comparisons. This MANOVA indicated significant differences between the four attachment patterns among the PID-5-SF trait domains $F(15, 825.809) = 17.561, p < .0005$; Wilks' $\Lambda = .466$; partial $\eta^2 = .225$. Sidak post hoc tests showed individuals displaying preoccupied and fearful-avoidant patterns scored higher than those displaying secure patterns in the Negative Affectivity ($d = 1.64$; $d = 1.59$), Detachment ($d = 1.01$; $d = .80$), Disinhibition ($d = 1.06$; $d = .95$), and Psychoticism ($d = .82$; $d = .80$) domains. Individuals with fearful avoidant patterns also displayed higher scores on Antagonism than the secure group ($d = .66$), while individuals displaying dismissing patterns exhibited higher scores on Detachment ($d = 1.53$).

Although it was hypothesized that the greatest differences between secure and insecure attachment styles would be found in those with higher levels of the Separation Insecurity trait facet, results indicated that the greatest differences were found between dismissing and secure patterns related to the Intimacy Avoidance trait facet ($d = 1.55$), and preoccupied and secure patterns in the Anxiousness trait facet ($d = 1.32$). See tables C1-C4 in Appendix C for a full breakdown of the trait domain and facet results.

Correlation Analyses

Regarding the second hypothesis that individuals with greater levels of personality psychopathology would have stronger reactions to perceived rejection, Pearson correlations were conducted with a Bonferroni corrected alpha of $p < .001$. Broadly, all five trait domains were found to be weakly or moderately correlated with overall externalizing and overall internalizing reactions to perceived rejection (r 's = .14 [PID-5-SF Antagonism & overall internalizing] -- .53 [PID-5-SF Negative Affectivity & overall internalizing]). The strongest correlation was between Negative Affectivity and overall internalizing reactions ($r = .529, p < .0005$). Among specific reactions, all domains were positively correlated with parental, peer, and romantic externalizing and internalizing reactions (r 's = .23 [PID-5-SF Antagonism & romantic internalizing] -- .49 [PID-5-SF Negative Affectivity & romantic internalizing]). At the trait facet level, Separation Insecurity was found to be moderately correlated with parental externalizing ($r = .31$) and internalizing ($r = .32$), peer internalizing ($r = .32$), and romantic internalizing ($r = .37$) reactions, and weakly correlated with peer and romantic externalizing reactions (r 's = .22 & .24). Although correlations between Separation Insecurity and reactions to perceived rejection were significant, the largest correlations were found between Anxiousness and romantic internalizing reactions ($r = .46$). See Appendix C, tables C5-C7 for a full breakdown of the trait domain and facet results.

Moderation

To address the potential effect of attachment and gender on the relationship between personality psychopathology and reactions to perceived rejection, gender and attachment patterns were dummy coded, and multiple moderation regressions were

conducted. Results from these regression analyses were inputted into multiple linear models which were then examined to assess the effect that each significant moderator had on the relationship between personality psychopathology (as measured by the PID-5-SF) and reactions to perceived rejection (as measured by the post-clip survey). Moderation effects varied, and a full breakdown the results from these moderation analyses can be found in Appendix C, tables C8-C18.

Attachment Patterns.

Preoccupied. Although hypothesized, preoccupied and fearful-avoidant patterns of attachment did not consistently moderate the relationship between personality psychopathology and maladaptive reactions to perceived rejection. However, several instances revealed a moderation effect from several attachment patterns. In particular, preoccupied attachment patterns showed an interaction effect on the association between Negative Affectivity and externalizing reactions to parental rejection. Preoccupied patterns appeared to weaken the level of reaction as an individual's Negative Affectivity score increased ($\beta = -.33$, $t = -1.97$, $p = .05$; see *Figure 2*).

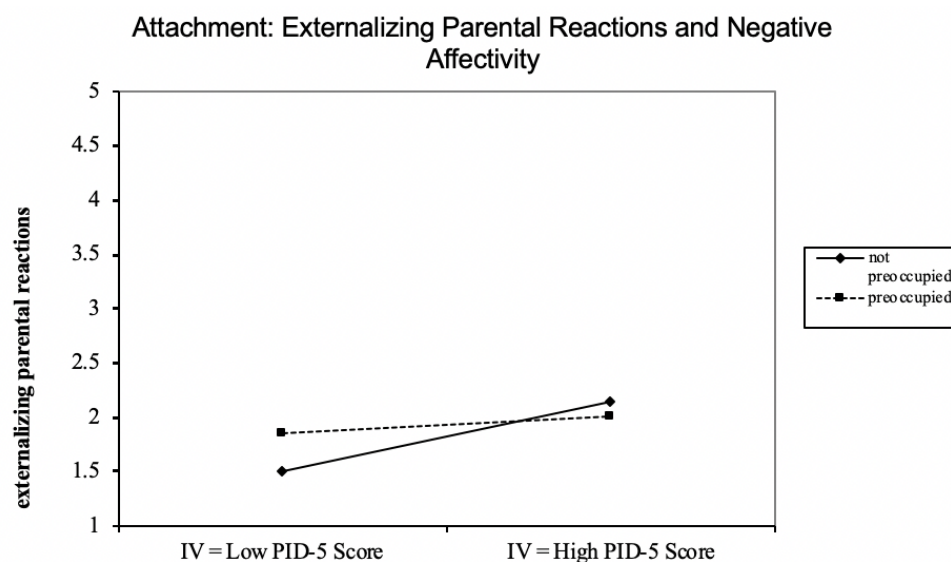


Figure 2. The interaction effect of preoccupied attachment (preoccupied versus non-preoccupied) on the relationship between Negative Affectivity and externalizing reactions to parental rejection.

This moderation was mirrored in the correlation between Negative Affectivity and externalizing reactions to romantic rejection. Preoccupied patterns demonstrated a consistent level of externalizing reaction, higher than non-preoccupied individuals with low levels of Negative Affectivity and lower than individuals with higher levels of Negative Affectivity ($\beta = -.40, t = -2.35, p = .02$; see *Figure 3*).

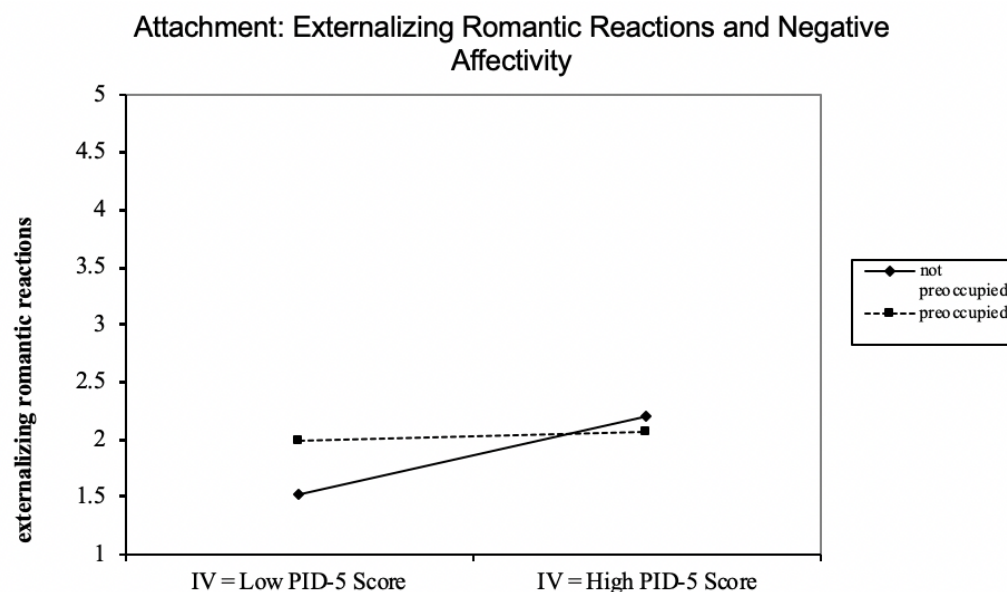


Figure 3. The interaction effect of preoccupied attachment (preoccupied versus non-preoccupied) on the relationship between Negative Affectivity and externalizing reactions to romantic rejection.

Preoccupied patterns also moderated the correlation between Negative Affectivity and externalizing reactions to peer rejection. Interestingly, a preoccupied attachment style appeared to increase externalizing reactions to peer rejection when an individual's Negative Affectivity score was low, but the relationship began to inverse slightly as an individual's Negative Affectivity score rose ($\beta = -.56, t = -3.12, p = .002$; see *Figure 4*).

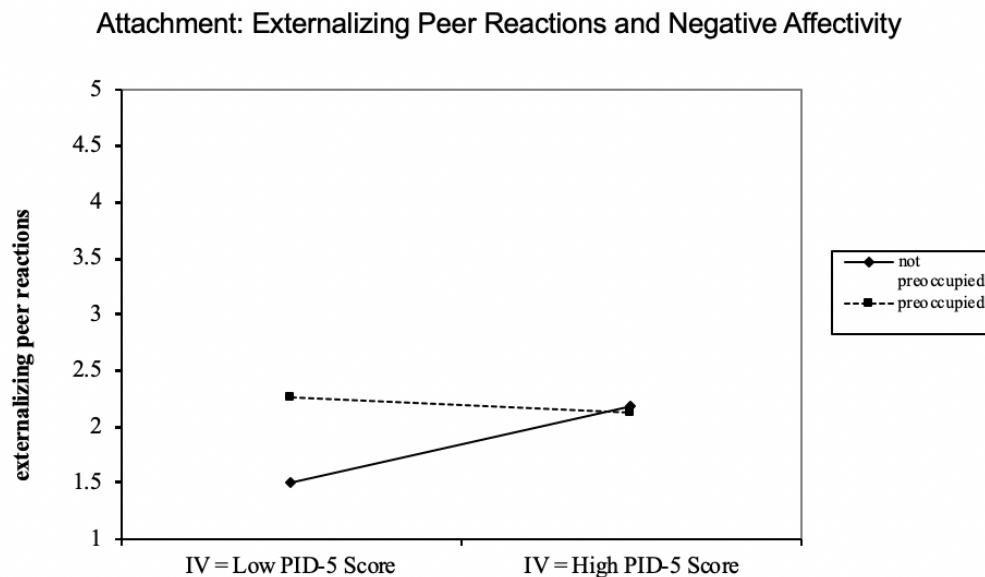


Figure 4. The interaction effect of preoccupied attachment (preoccupied versus non-preoccupied) on the relationship between Negative Affectivity and externalizing reactions to peer rejection.

Additionally, the preoccupied pattern slightly weakened the correlation between Negative Affectivity and internalizing reactions to peer rejection, although preoccupied individuals did exhibit consistently higher internalizing reaction scores than individuals with non-preoccupied patterns, regardless of their Negative Affectivity score ($\beta = -.47$, $t = -2.43$, $p = .02$; see *Figure 5*).

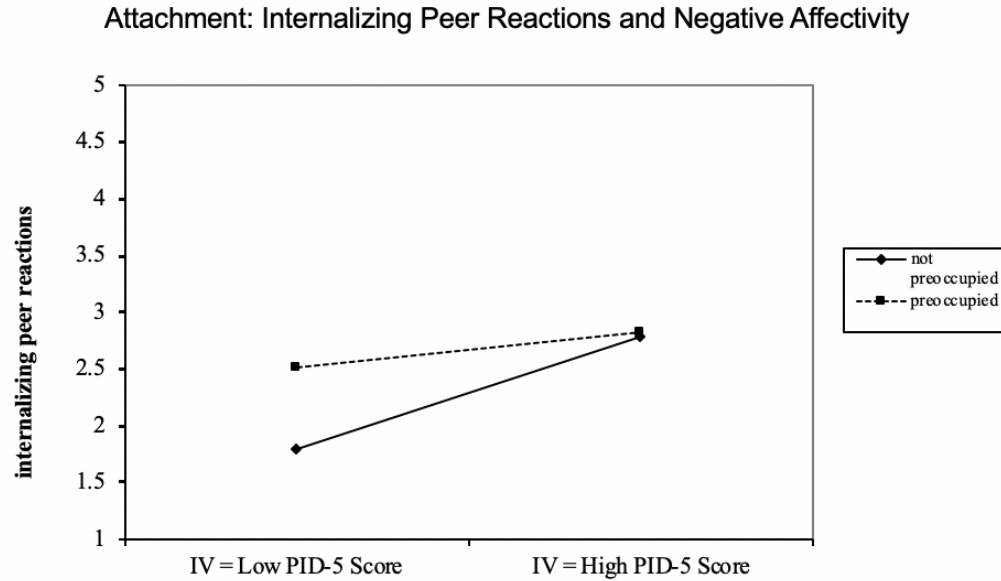


Figure 5. The interaction effect of preoccupied attachment (preoccupied versus non-preoccupied) on the relationship between Negative Affectivity and internalizing reactions to peer rejection.

Beyond Negative Affectivity, the preoccupied pattern moderated the correlation between Disinhibition and overall externalizing reactions by weakening its degree of positivity. Preoccupied individual's displayed a relatively stable level of externalizing reaction regardless of their level of Disinhibition, while non preoccupied individuals exhibited lower externalizing reactions than preoccupied individuals with lower Disinhibition and slightly higher levels of externalizing behavior when their level of Disinhibition was higher ($\beta = -.43$, $t = -2.8$, $p = .005$; see *Figure 6*).

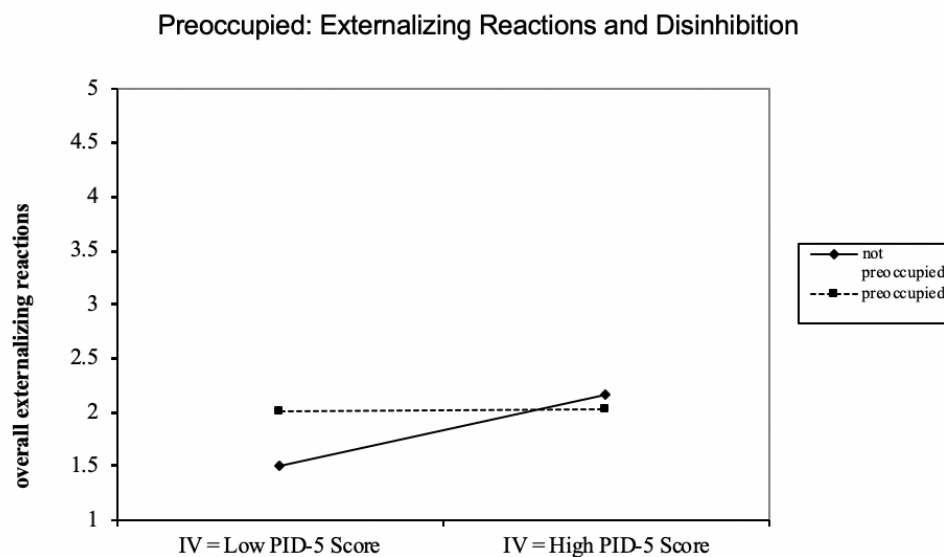


Figure 6. The interaction effect of preoccupied attachment (preoccupied versus non-preoccupied) on the relationship between Disinhibition and externalizing reactions to overall rejection.

Dismissing. Dismissing attachment patterns moderated several relationships. The dismissing pattern appeared to weaken the correlation between Detachment and internalizing reactions to peer rejection. Dismissing individuals with low Detachment had a slightly higher score on internalizing reactions than their non-dismissing counterparts, and dismissing individuals with a high level of Detachment exhibited a much lower level of internalizing reaction to peer rejection than their non-dismissing counterparts ($\beta = -.60$, $t = -2.04$, $p = .04$; see *Figure 7*).

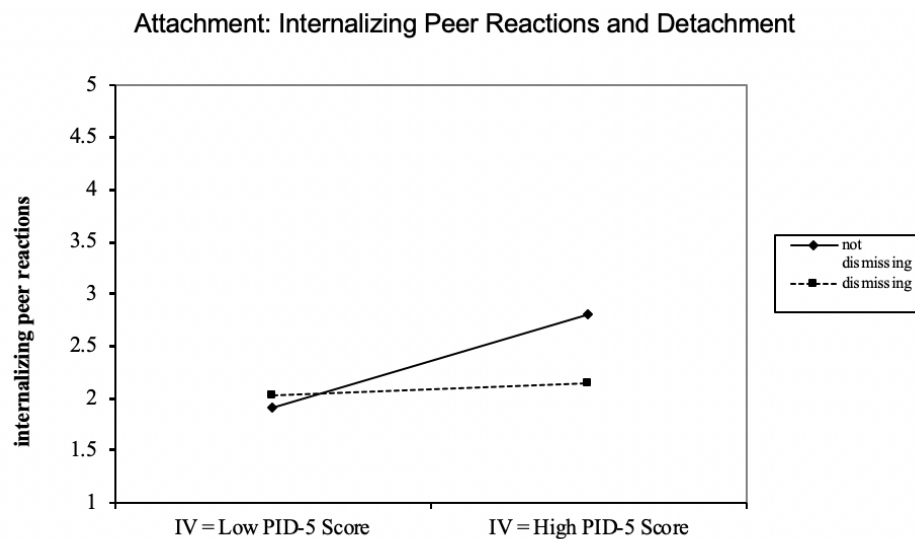


Figure 7. The interaction effect of dismissing attachment (dismissing versus non-dismissing) on the relationship between Detachment and internalizing reactions to peer rejection.

This moderation effect was augmented between Detachment and overall internalizing reactions. Specifically, dismissing individuals exhibited less internalizing reaction regardless of their level of Detachment in comparison to their non-dismissing counterparts ($\beta = -.57$, $t = -2.25$, $p = .025$; see *Figure 8*).

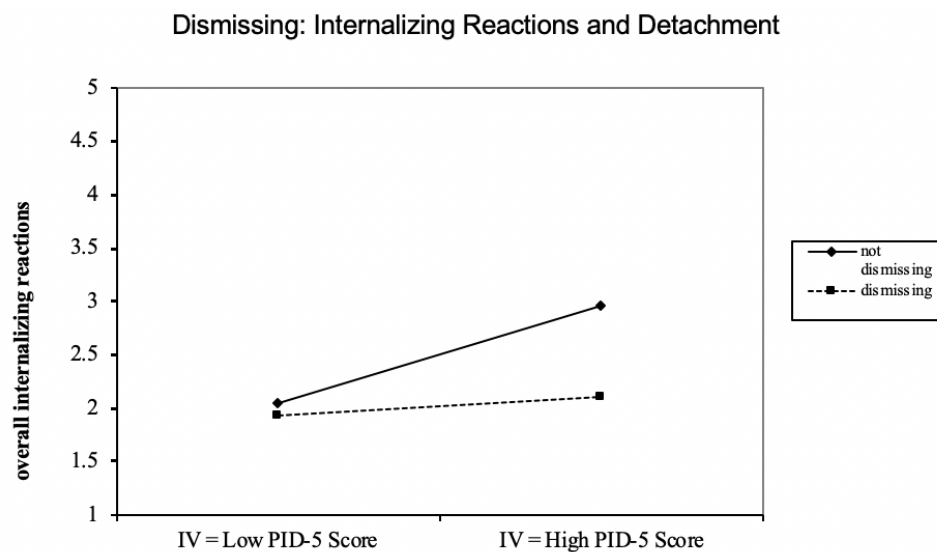


Figure 8. The interaction effect of dismissing attachment (dismissing versus non-dismissing) on the relationship between Detachment and internalizing reactions to overall rejection.

Fearful-Avoidant. Although fearful-avoidant attachment pattern moderated several relationships between personality psychopathology and reactions to rejection, the attachment style appeared to only moderate the relationship between Psychoticism and reactions to rejection rather than the hypothesized correlation between Negative Affectivity and reactions to rejection. Specifically, fearful-avoidant attachment moderated the correlation between Psychoticism and internalizing reactions to romantic rejection, in that fearful-avoidant individuals displayed higher levels of internalization regardless of their level of Psychoticism ($\beta = -.53$, $t = -2.3$, $p = .02$; see *Figure 9*).

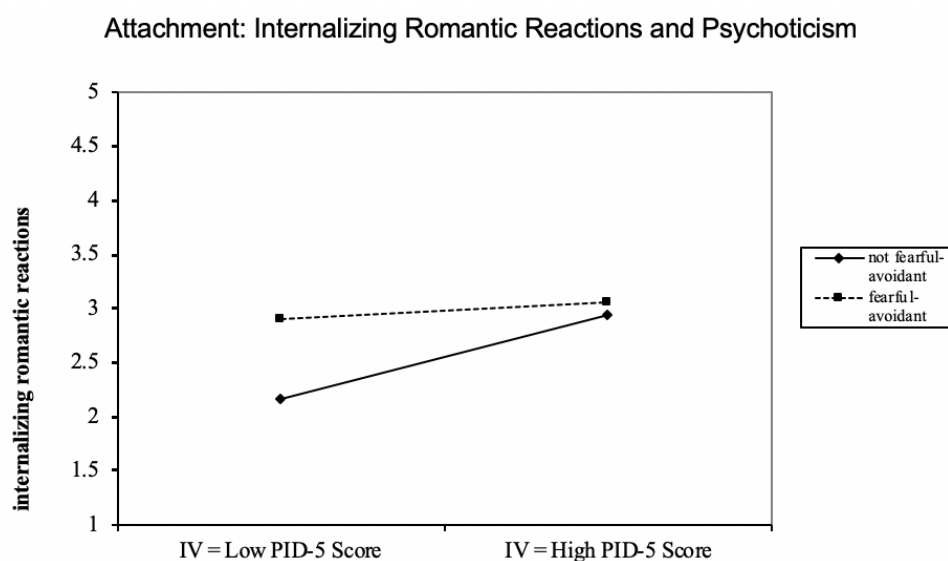


Figure 9. The interaction effect of fearful-avoidant attachment (secure versus non-fearful-avoidant) on the relationship between Psychoticism and internalizing reactions to romantic rejection.

This moderation effect was also observed in the correlation between Psychoticism and overall internalizing reactions to rejection ($\beta = .40$, $t = -2.0$, $p = .05$; see *Figure 10*).

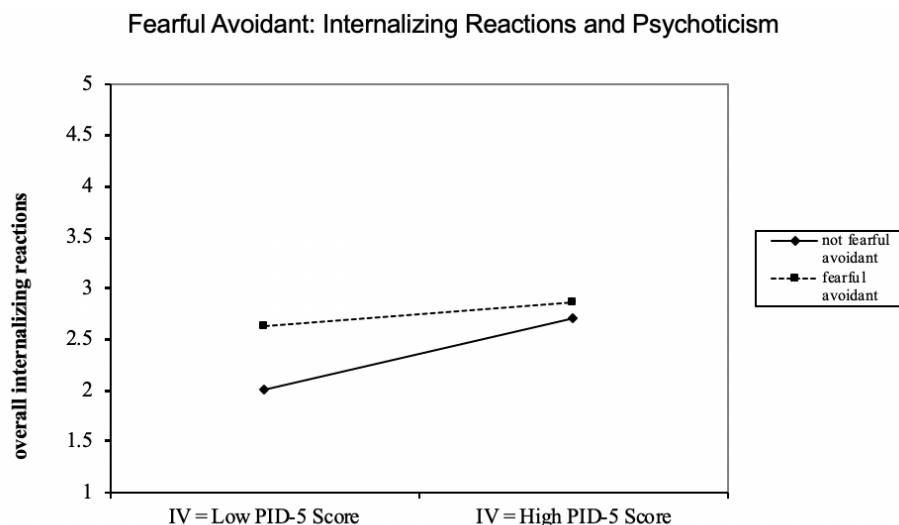


Figure 10. The interaction effect of fearful-avoidant attachment (secure versus non-fearful-avoidant) on the relationship between Psychoticism and normative reactions to overall rejection.

Secure. Although it was not hypothesized that secure attachment would moderate the relationship between personality psychopathology and reactions to perceived rejection, moderation effects were observed in several instances. Secure attachment strengthened the relationship between Negative Affectivity and externalizing reactions to romantic rejection, although secure individuals with high levels of Negative Affectivity only slightly surpassed their non-secure peers in level of externalizing reaction ($\beta = .32$, $t = -2.12$, $p = .04$; see *Figure 11*).

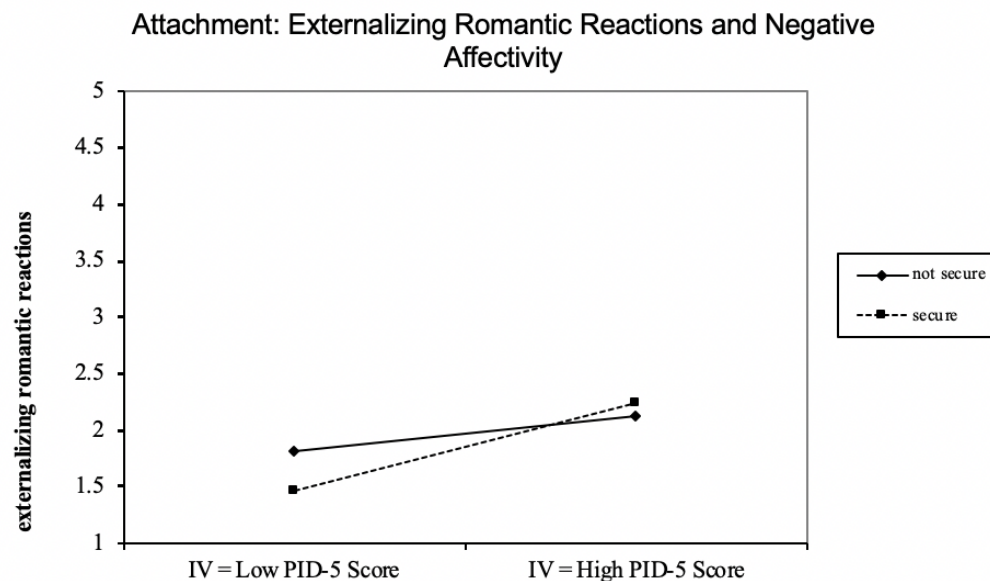


Figure 11. The interaction effect of secure attachment (secure versus non-secure) on the relationship between Negative Affectivity and externalizing reactions to romantic rejection.

Gender.

Externalizing Reactions. Moderation analyses conducted to determine the effects of gender on the relationship between personality psychopathology and reactions to rejection yielded several effects. First, gender moderated the correlation between Antagonism and externalizing reactions to parental rejection, with being of female gender weakening the positive correlation ($\beta = -.58$, $t = -3.90$, $p = .0005$; see *Figure 12*).

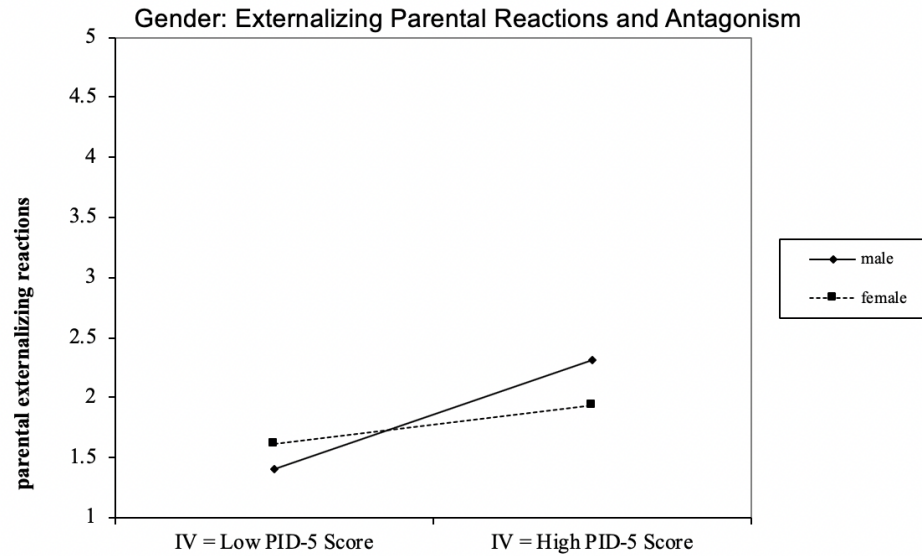


Figure 12. The interaction effect of gender (male versus female) on the relationships between Antagonism and externalizing reactions to parental rejection.

This moderation effect was also mirrored in the correlation between Antagonism and externalizing reactions to peer rejection, with women displaying a weaker positive correlation than men ($\beta = -.45$, $t = -.45$, $p = .003$; see *Figure 13*), and in the correlation between Antagonism and externalizing reactions to romantic rejection ($\beta = -.41$, $t = -2.73$, $p = .007$; see *Figure 14*).

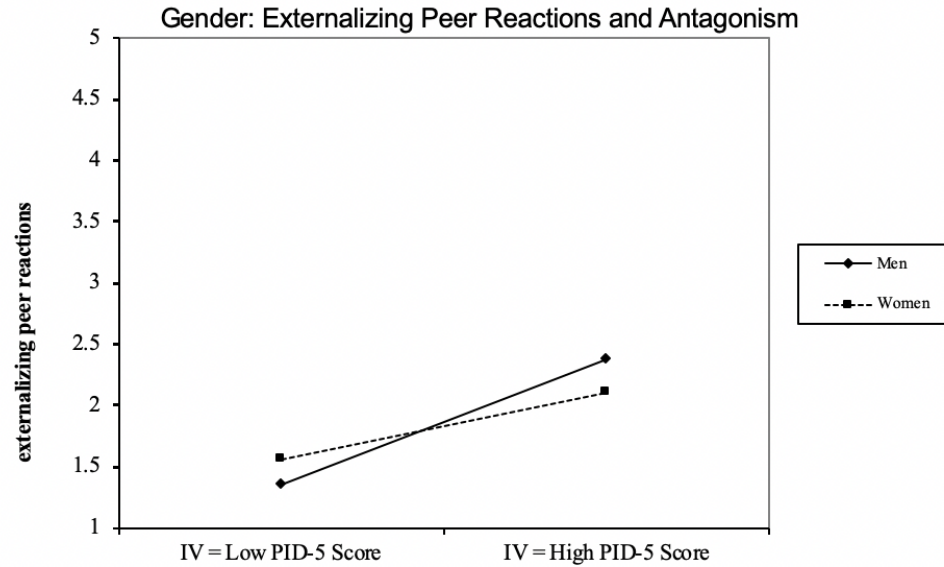


Figure 13. The interaction effect of gender (male versus female) on the relationships between Antagonism and externalizing reactions to peer rejection.

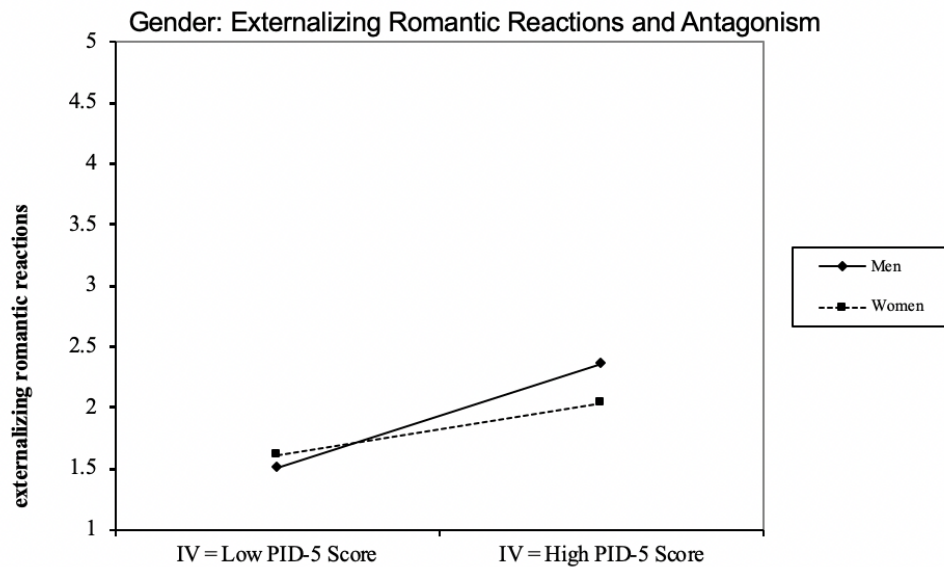


Figure 14. The interaction effect of gender (male versus female) on the relationships between Antagonism and externalizing reactions to romantic rejection.

These moderation effects were unsurprisingly echoed in the correlation between Antagonism and overall externalizing reactions ($\beta = -.47$, $t = -3.61$, $p = .0005$; see Figure 15).

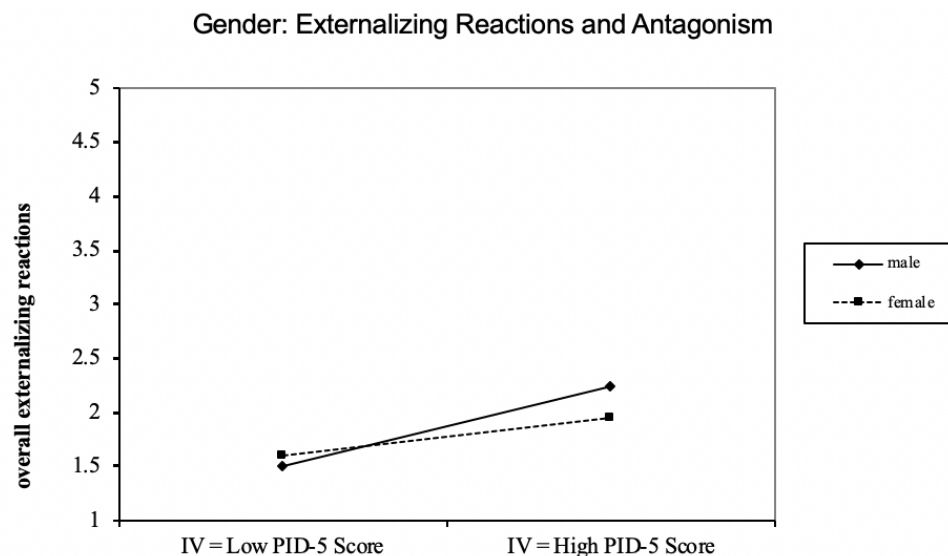


Figure 15. The interaction effect of gender (male versus female) on the relationships between Antagonism and externalizing reactions to overall rejection.

A similar moderation effect was also observed between Psychoticism and externalizing reactions to parental rejection ($\beta = -.38, t = -2.81, p = .005$; see *Figure 16*), peer rejection ($\beta = -.26, t = -2.87, p = .004$; see *Figure 17*), and romantic rejection ($\beta = -.29, t = -2.05, p = .04$; see *Figure 18*). In these cases, being a woman appeared to weaken the positive correlation between Psychoticism and externalizing reactions slightly.

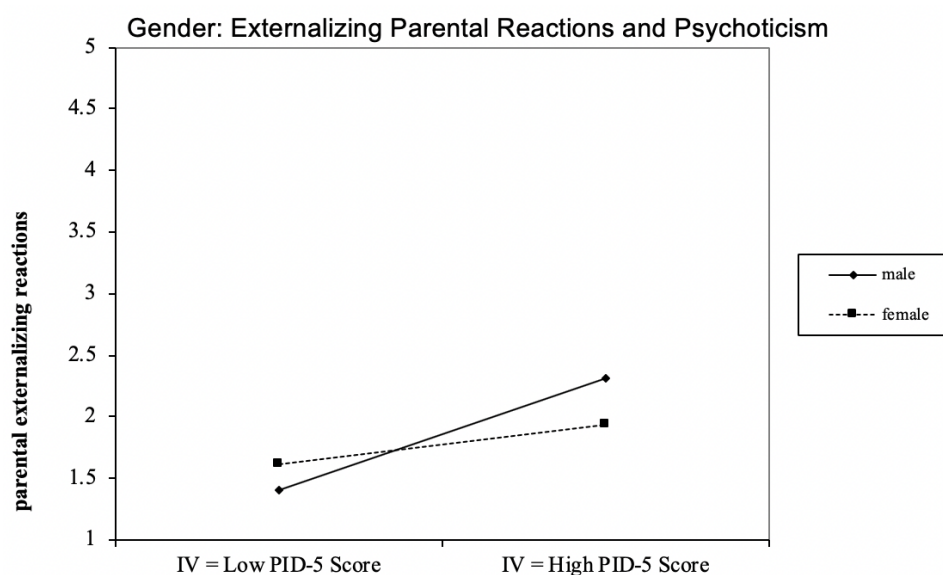


Figure 16. The interaction effect of gender (male versus female) on the relationships between Psychoticism and externalizing reactions to parental rejection.

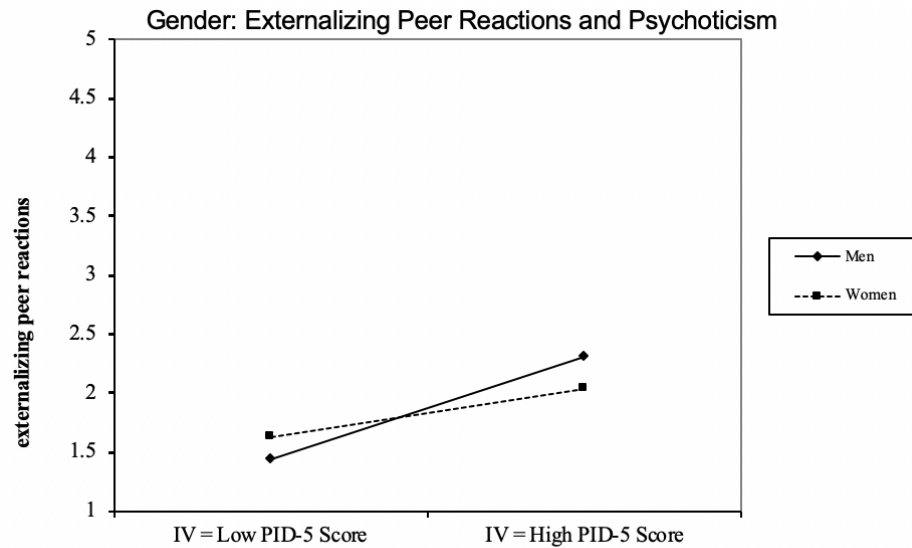


Figure 17. The interaction effect of gender (male versus female) on the relationships between Psychoticism and externalizing reactions to peer rejection.

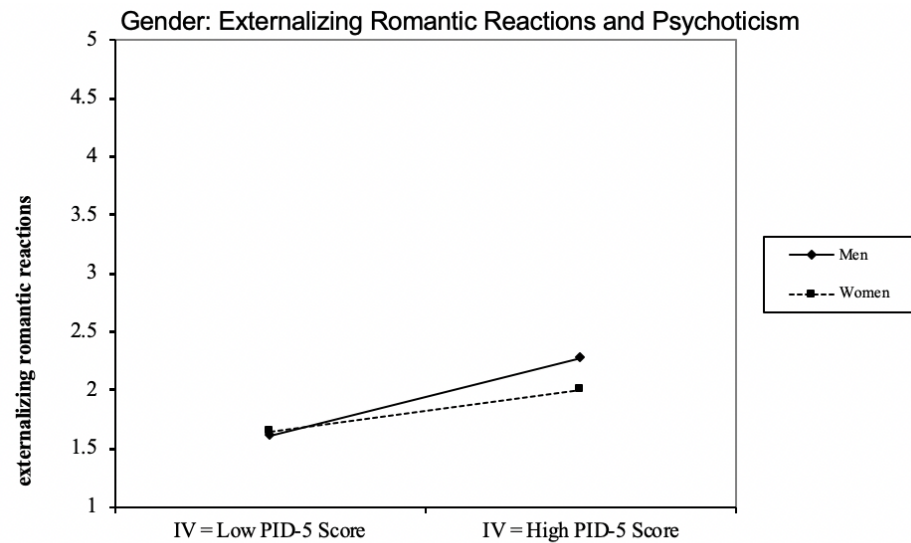


Figure 18. The interaction effect of gender (male versus female) on the relationships between Psychoticism and externalizing reactions to romantic rejection.

Once again, this effect was mirrored in the correlation between Psychoticism and overall externalizing reactions ($\beta = -.33$, $t = -2.62$, $p = .009$; see *Figure 19*).

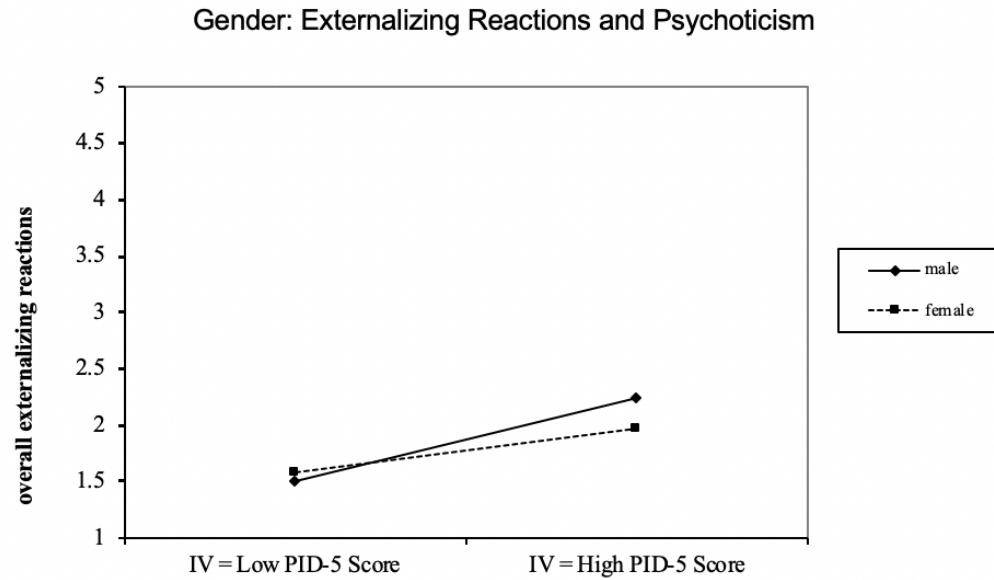


Figure 19. The interaction effect of gender (male versus female) on the relationships between Psychoticism and externalizing reactions to overall rejection.

Internalizing Reactions. Interestingly, a robust moderation effect was observed in the correlation between Antagonism and internalizing reactions to parental reactions, with an increase in Antagonism appearing to weaken the strength of internalization in women but increasing it in men ($\beta = -.58$, $t = -3.09$, $p = .002$; see *Figure 20*).

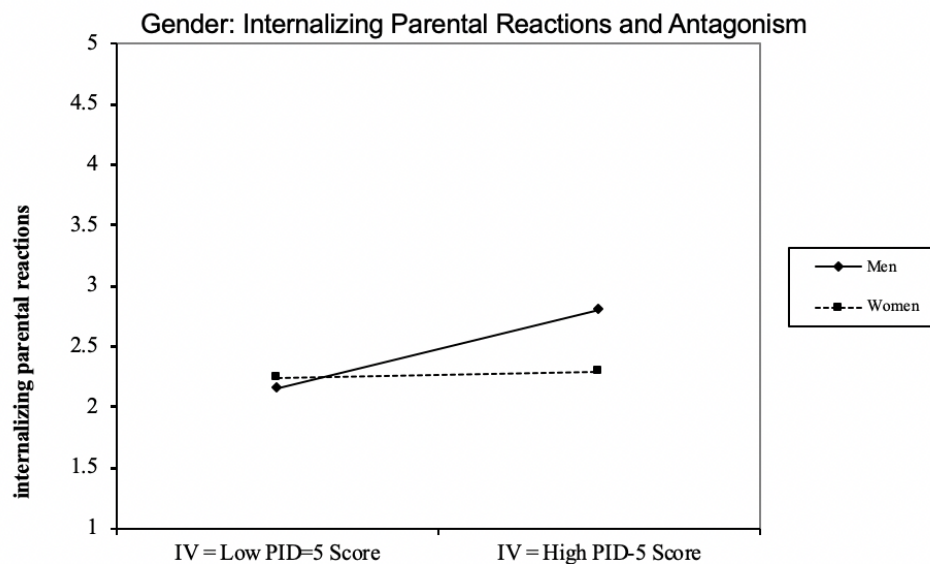


Figure 20. The interaction effect of gender (male versus female) on the relationships between Antagonism and internalizing reactions to parental rejection.

A moderation effect was also demonstrated on the correlation between Antagonism and internalizing reactions to peer rejection, however in this case Antagonism and level of internalizing reaction appeared to be slightly negative correlated for women and moderately correlated for men ($\beta = -.53$, $t = -2.79$, $p = .006$; see Figure 21).

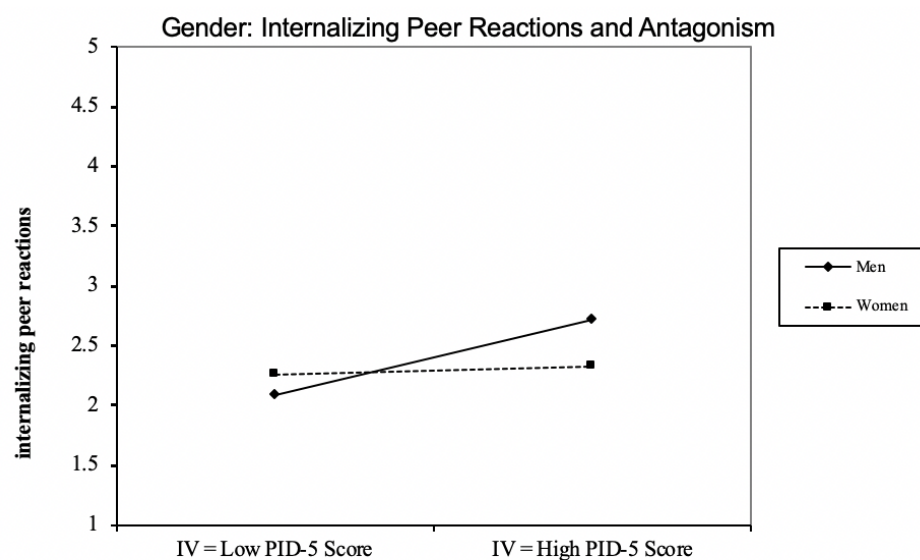


Figure 21. The interaction effect of gender (male versus female) on the relationships between Antagonism and internalizing reactions to peer rejection.

Gender also moderated the positive correlation between Antagonism and internalizing reactions in overall rejection by weakening the strength of the correlation for women ($\beta = -.49$, $t = -2.84$, $p = .005$; see *Figure 22*).

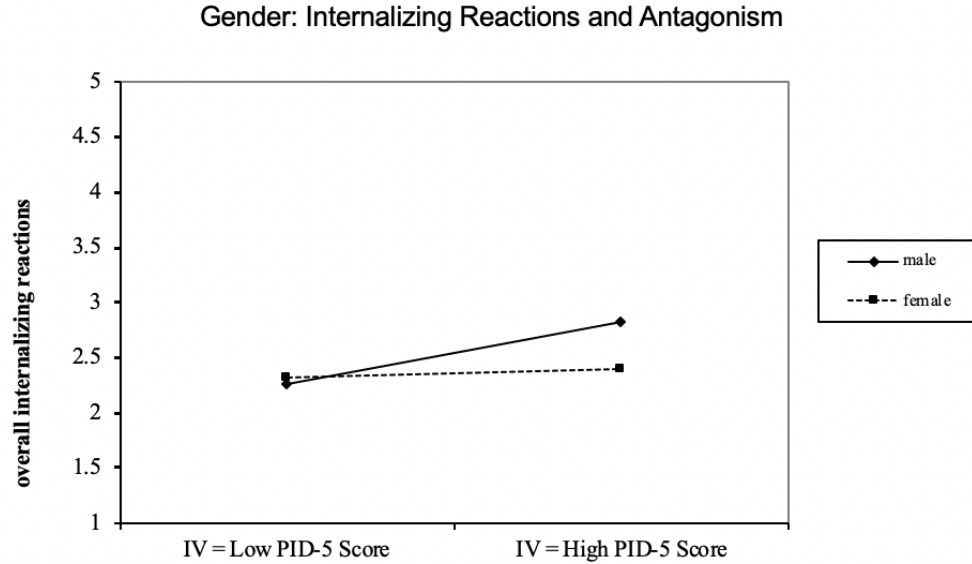


Figure 22. The interaction effect of gender (male versus female) on the relationships between Antagonism and internalizing reactions to overall rejection.

Gender also moderated the correlation between Disinhibition and internalizing reactions to parental rejection, by slightly weakening the positive correlation for women ($\beta = -.30$, $t = -1.96$, $p = .05$; see *Figure 23*).

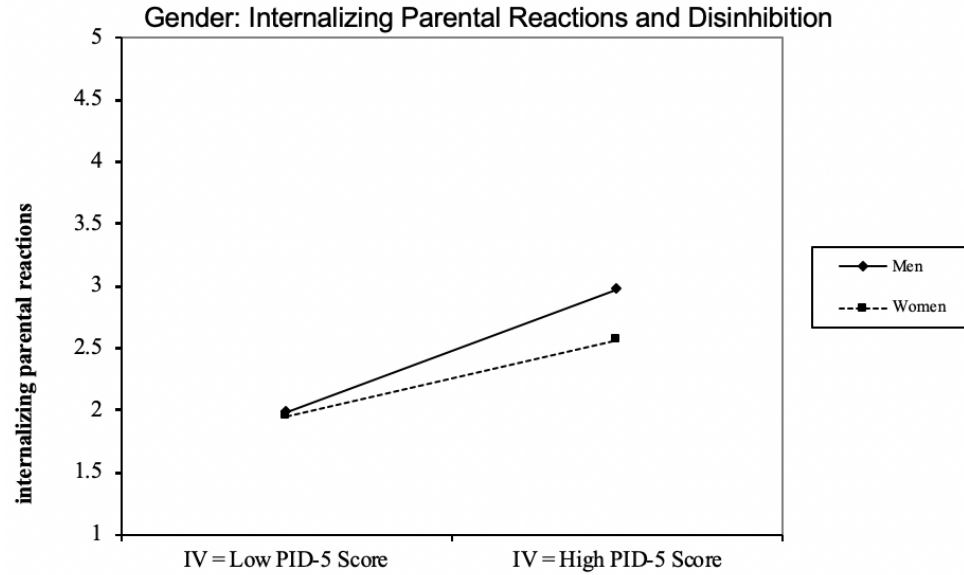


Figure 23. The interaction effect of gender (male versus female) on the relationships between Disinhibition and internalizing reactions to parental rejection.

This moderation effect was mirrored between Psychoticism and internalizing reactions to parental rejection ($\beta = -.34$, $t = -2.05$, $p = .04$; see Figure 24).

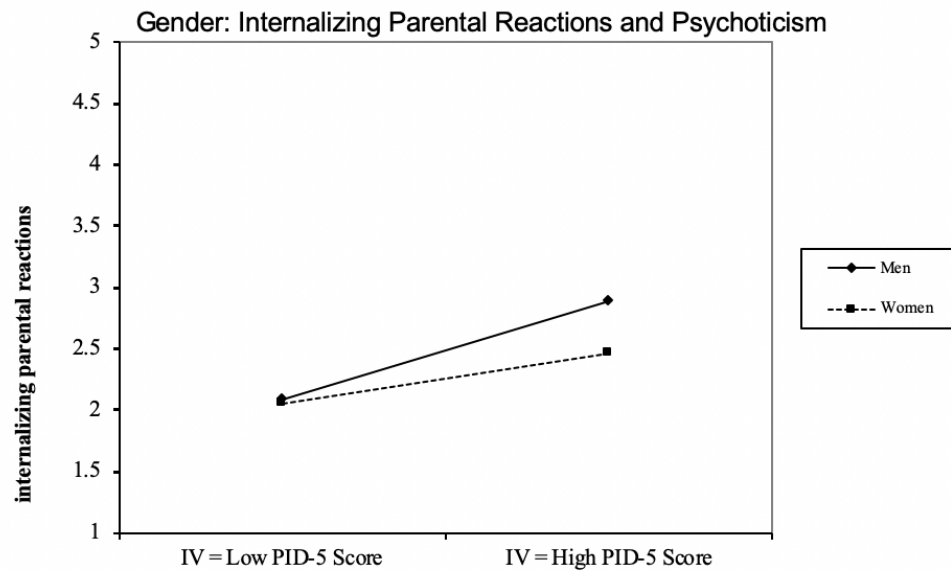


Figure 24. The interaction effect of gender (male versus female) on the relationships between Psychoticism and internalizing reactions to parental rejection.

CHAPTER IV

Discussion

Insecure attachment styles have been implicated in a broad range of general and personality psychopathology (Cassidy et al, 2013; Main, 1996; Kochanska et al., 2009). Research has suggested insecure attachment styles differ in their expression between genders (Fearon et al., 2010; DeKlyen & Greenberg, 2008). However, outside of studies concerning consequences of attachment styles within BPD, few researchers have examined the effect of attachment across other areas of personality psychopathology. This study helped to elaborate on these relationships further, which will lead to further insight into personality psychopathology and the way in which it is expressed in upsetting experiences such as rejection. Furthermore, as research into effective treatments of BPD has frequently emphasized the importance of tailoring certain aspects of treatment to address insecure attachment styles (Levy et al., 2005), the results from this study may be a step towards improving the implementation of attachment and innovate personality measures in clinical settings.

As hypothesized, results of this study suggested that individuals with higher levels of personality psychopathology are more likely to endorse insecure attachment styles, although Separation Insecurity was not the largest difference observed between secure and insecure patterns. This result further supports the dimensional approach to personality diagnosis as prior research between attachment and both categorical and dimensional models of personality psychopathology have demonstrated similar findings (Bakermans-Kranenburg et al., 2018; Kochanska et al., 2009; Levy et al., 2005; Chiesa et al., 2017). The large number of significant differences observed between personality

traits and attachment patterns further suggests that the role of attachment is widespread in personality psychopathology. This finding is consistent with previous research suggesting a generalized effect of attachment on personality psychopathology development and dysfunction (Hengartner et al., 2015; Chiesa et al., 2017). Indeed, the fact that the trait facet of Separation Insecurity did not yield the highest differences demonstrates that insecure attachment patterns are not strictly relegated to attachment related personality disorders such as BPD.

Results supported the hypothesis that greater levels of personality psychopathology are related to stronger externalizing and internalizing reactions to perceived rejection. This association was observed across almost all personality trait domains and facets to varying degrees. Broadly, these findings shed light on some of the underlying mechanisms responsible for the pronounced interpersonal difficulties often linked to personality psychopathology (South et al., 2008; Ettner et al., 2011; Grant et al., 2004; Disney et al., 2012). Although the AMPD trait facets vary significantly in their descriptions, they appear to share a common tendency for maladaptive responses to rejection. This finding is therefore notable, as it demonstrates that rejection elicits a response even in individuals displaying trait facets commonly categorized as interpersonally disinterested. For example, the trait facet of Callousness was positively correlated with externalizing reactions to rejection. Although this result may stem in part from an evolutionary predisposition to fear rejection (Leary, 2015), it also suggests that these “interpersonally disinterested” traits may simply be behavioral expressions of attachment insecurity and broader personality psychopathology. As previous research has mainly explored externalizing and aggressive reactions to rejection within BPD (Levy et

al., 2005; Scott et al., 2017), future research should focus on the way in which other externalizing PDs, such as ASPD, NPD, and psychopathy, respond to perceived or real rejection.

Although hypothesized, analyses did not support a consistent moderation of preoccupied and fearful-avoidant attachment styles on the association between personality psychopathology and maladaptive reactions to perceived rejection. In fact, in several instances it appeared that preoccupied attachment style tempered the association between externalizing reactions and personality psychopathology (Negative Affectivity and Disinhibition domains, and the Separation Insecurity trait facet specifically), and at times even inversed the correlation. This suggests that for preoccupied individuals, an increase in personality psychopathology is more likely to translate to increased efforts to preserve a relationship, rather than increased externalizing and aggressive behavior in response to its dissolution. However, the moderation effect observed on the association between internalizing reactions to peer rejection and Negative Affectivity does suggest that a preoccupied attachment style strengthens the relationship between negative affective personality traits and internalizing symptoms in response to social rejection. These results are reflective of Levy et al.'s (2005) study of BPD individuals, as those displaying preoccupied patterns were more prone to internalizing reactions to perceived rejection.

Interestingly, although fearful-avoidant attachment style strengthened the association between personality psychopathology and internalizing reactions, this effect was only observed in the Psychoticism domain. This moderation effect is reflective of early research into attachment patterns and general personality psychopathology. Levy

(1993) found that fearful-avoidant attachment patterns were associated with schizoid, avoidant, and schizotypal scales on the Millon Clinical Multiaxial Inventory II (Millon, 1992). Levy later found that BPD patients with fearful-avoidant patterns were more likely to display identity disturbance than BPD patients with a preoccupied pattern (2005). These findings echo Shaver and Hazan's early conceptualization of adult attachment patterns, as fearful-avoidant was originally conceptualized as the true opposite of secure attachment and the style most associated with overall psychopathology (Shaver & Hazan, 1993; Dutton et al., 1994). Therefore, it would follow that the fearful-avoidant pattern would be more likely to enhance the relationship between psychotic personality traits and internalizing reactions than other attachment styles. However, the full mechanisms behind this moderation relationship have yet to be fully explored and are therefore a topic for further investigation.

Gender proved to be a slightly more consistent moderator of the association between personality psychopathology and both internalizing and externalizing reactions to perceived rejection. Consistent with this study's hypothesis, men with higher levels of personality psychopathology, particularly Antagonism, demonstrated stronger externalizing reactions to perceived rejection from parents, peers, and romantic partners. Unexpectedly, the effect was also robustly observed among internalizing reactions to rejection. These results suggest that men with personality psychopathology may exhibit less control over their reactions when faced with a rejection situation than women with personality psychopathology. Therefore, as research has suggested, men appear to be more likely to express externalizing and aggressive personality traits than women (Sansone et al., 2011).

Going forward, a further investigation into the presence or absence of Separation Insecurity in male dominated personality disorders such as ASPD, specifically using a clinical population, may provide further insight into the differences in personality psychopathology expression between genders. A better understanding of these differences may lead to better informed diagnoses and treatment interventions for men high in personality traits associated with ASPD.

Although personality psychopathology has been known to be highly associated with the experience of interpersonal difficulties, this study demonstrates that specific attachment patterns and gender can both strengthen and weaken the association between personality traits and internalizing and externalizing reactions to rejection. This study therefore offers a better insight into the mechanisms behind behaviors commonly witnessed among individuals with personality psychopathology when faced with intimate relationship dissolutions or difficulties. Such a thorough overview of these interactions may clarify the processes through which individuals with severe personality psychopathology come to commit violent acts towards both themselves and others. Additionally, this study exposed a robust interaction between fearful-avoidant attachment and the association between psychoticism and internalizing reactions to rejection. This finding further implies that specific attachment patterns may be tied to specific personality traits, rather than impacting all types of personality psychopathology. Future research should therefore look deeper into how attachment patterns affect symptom presentation among specific PDs in clinical populations.

Regarding gender, this study also demonstrated that while men appear to exhibit more externalizing tendencies in the face of rejection than women as supported by past

research (Gawda & Czubak, 2017; Loas et al., 2011; Berk & Rhodes, 2005; Dutton, 2002). However, this study has demonstrated that they are also highly prone to internalizing reactions to rejection that may frequently be masked by these externalizing behaviors. This masking of internalizing reactions by externalizing behaviors may play a role in the observed imbalance of specific PD diagnoses between men and women, specifically in the case of ASPD versus BPD (Alegria et al., 2013). Additionally, a better understanding of these reactions may help improve treatment interventions for men exhibiting violent tendencies in intimate or social interactions, such as domestic abusers. Further research should therefore delve deeper into these interactions and investigate how attachment could be targeted to improve treatment interventions for personality psychopathology in both genders.

Limitations and Future Directions

This study contained multiple weaknesses that should be considered when interpreting its results. First, although the use of video clips provided this study with the unique ability to more saliently measure reactions to rejection, their inclusion posed multiple issues. Although these clips were selected through the results of a pilot study, they came from fictional movies that many participants may have already been familiar with. Each type of rejection was portrayed in a different time period, and the primary ethnicity of the actors was Caucasian. Therefore, the participant's ability to empathize with each clip may have been tempered slightly by their own backgrounds and experiences. Additionally, because participant's ratings on reaction were based on how they would have behaved in the situation presented in the clip, responses may have been softened somewhat due to the removed nature of the item. To that end, the validity and

reliability of the post clip survey used are unknown as the survey was developed for this project. Although the behaviors listed for externalizing, internalizing, and normative reactions fit within each reaction's clinical description (APA, 2013), the questionnaire has not been normed or tested alongside other measures of various reaction types as none could be found despite a thorough literature search.

Additionally, as this study was conducted via two online platforms, the authenticity of responses should be considered when interpreting the results. This survey took around 60 minutes to complete, so the potential of test fatigue is high, although the validity indicators throughout attempted to mitigate this issue. Furthermore, as both samples were receiving course credit or compensation for their completed participation, it is possible that the validity of responses was weakened somewhat by participants level of engagement in the items included. Finally, the sample collected was 75.5% female. Although this study will provide better insight into how attachment pattern impacts personality psychopathology and reactions to rejection in women, it provides less insight into how this relationship is expressed in men.

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APPENDIX A

Demographic Questionnaire

1. Please indicate your gender.
 - a. Male
 - b. Female
 - c. Non-Binary
 - d. Other:
2. Please enter your age (in years).
3. Please indicate your ethnicity.
 - a. Asian
 - b. African American
 - c. Caucasian
 - d. Hispanic/Latinx
 - e. Native American
 - f. Pacific Islander
 - g. Other:
4. Please indicate your sexual orientation.
 - a. Straight/Heterosexual
 - b. Bisexual
 - c. Lesbian
 - d. Gay
 - e. Other:
5. Please indicate your highest level of completed education.
 - a. High school diploma/GED
 - b. Associates or Technical degree
 - c. Bachelors (B.A. or B.S.)
 - d. Masters (M.A., M.S., or M.Ed.)
 - e. Doctorate
6. Is English your primary language?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
7. If English is not your primary language, please state your primary language:

APPENDIX B

Post Video Survey

1. Have you ever experienced a similar situation to the one in this clip?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

2. Even if you have not experienced a similar situation, to what extent can you empathize with this person's feelings?

Not at all	Slightly	Moderately	Very much	Extremely
1	2	3	4	5

3. Please indicate the extent to which you are feeling each of these emotions after viewing the clip (on a scale from 1-5)

	Definitely Not Feeling	Not Feeling	Neutral	Feeling	Definitely Feeling
Depressed	1	2	3	4	5
Anxious	1	2	3	4	5
Angry	1	2	3	4	5
Amused	1	2	3	4	5
Abandoned	1	2	3	4	5
Excited	1	2	3	4	5
Rejected	1	2	3	4	5

4. If this were you, what is the likelihood that you would (rank each on scale of 1-5):

	Definitely Not Feeling	Not Feeling	Neutral	Feeling	Definitely Feeling
Drink to excess	1	2	3	4	5
Cry	1	2	3	4	5
Avoid friends and family	1	2	3	4	5
Instigate a physical fight	1	2	3	4	5
Seek revenge on the other person	1	2	3	4	5
Destroy objects that remind you of the other person	1	2	3	4	5

Seek support from friends and family	1	2	3	4	5
Physically harm yourself	1	2	3	4	5
Blame yourself	1	2	3	4	5
Avoid leaving your home for several days	1	2	3	4	5
Engage in a healthy distracting activity	1	2	3	4	5

APPENDIX C

Descriptives, MANOVA & Correlation Tables

Table C1. Descriptive statistics of PID-5-SF Trait Domains and Facets.

Variable	Mean	Standard Deviation	Range
Negative Affectivity	1.29	.72	2.92
Anxiousness	1.65	.85	3.00
Emotional Lability	1.05	.86	3.00
Hostility	.86	.77	3.00
Perseveration	.91	.73	3.00
Restricted Affectivity	2.23	.75	3.00
Separation Insecurity	1.18	.89	3.00
Submissiveness	1.03	.74	3.00
Depressivity	.46	.71	3.00
Suspiciousness	.71	.60	2.50
Detachment	.70	.56	2.58
Anhedonia	.66	.78	3.00
Depressivity	.46	.71	3.00
Intimacy Avoidance	.61	.73	3.00
Suspiciousness	.71	.60	2.50
Withdrawal	.84	.67	2.75
Antagonism	.36	.39	1.92
Attention Seeking	.88	.81	3.00
Callousness	.20	.41	2.00
Deceitfulness	.36	.47	2.25
Grandiosity	.24	.40	2.00
Manipulativeness	.47	.55	2.50
Hostility	.86	.77	3.00
Disinhibition	.75	.57	2.25
Distractibility	1.33	.92	3.00

Impulsivity	.65	.78	3.00
Irresponsibility	.26	.42	2.25
Rigid Perfectionism	1.93	.84	3.00
Risk Taking	.64	.62	2.50
Psychoticism	.56	.50	1.92
Eccentricity	.93	.87	3.00
Perceptual Dysfunction	.26	.40	2.00
Unusual Beliefs and Experiences	.49	.58	2.00

Note. PID-5-SF = Personality Inventory for DSM-5 Short Form.

Table C2. Sidak post hoc tests between personality traits and secure and preoccupied attachment patterns.

	Mean Differences	Std. Error	<i>p</i>	Cohen's <i>d</i>
Anxiousness	-1.07	.13	<.000	1.32
Emotional Lability	-.97	.11	<.000	1.28
Hostility	-.73	.11	<.000	.85
Perseveration	-.59	.11	<.000	.76
Restricted Affectivity	.03	.11	1.00	.04
Separation Insecurity	-.99	.11	<.000	1.36
Submissiveness	-.24	.11	.178	.32
Anhedonia	-.92	.11	<.000	1.24
Depressivity	-.76	.11	<.000	1.05
Intimacy Avoidance	-.32	.1	.008	.53
Suspiciousness	-.75	.10	<.000	1.21
Withdrawal	-.51	.11	<.000	.69
Eccentricity	-.80	.14	<.000	.88
Perceptual Dysfunction	-.27	.07	.002	.57

Unusual Beliefs & Experiences	-.34	.09	.002	.56
Attention Seeking	-.24	.11	.218	.31
Callousness	-.08	.08	.917	.17
Deceitfulness	-.17	.09	.304	.33
Grandiosity	-.12	.10	.758	.21
Manipulativeness	.05	.10	.998	.07
Distractibility	-.95	.13	<.000	1.19
Impulsivity	-.41	.11	.002	.57
Irresponsibility	-.35	.08	<.000	.69
Rigid Perfectionism	.41	.12	.003	.53
Risk Taking	-.33	.1	.009	.52
Negative Affectivity	-1.01	.09	<.000	1.64
Detachment	-.58	.09	<.000	1.01
Antagonism	-.08	.08	.89	.17
Disinhibition	-.57	.09	<.000	1.06
Psychoticism	-.47	.09	<.000	.82

Note. Significant values are presented in boldface font.

Table C3. Sidak post hoc tests between personality traits and secure and dismissing attachment patterns.

	Mean Differences	Std. Error	<i>p</i>	Cohen's <i>d</i>
Anxiousness	-.42	.17	.088	.23
Emotional Lability	-.12	.15	.950	1.4
Hostility	-.35	.15	.105	.18
Perseveration	-.12	.15	.957	.18
Restricted Affectivity	.45	.15	.018	.55
Separation Insecurity	.17	.14	.797	.27

Submissiveness	.01	.15	1.00	.01
Anhedonia	-.76	.15	<.000	.99
Depressivity	-.57	.15	.001	.7
Intimacy Avoidance	-1.11	.13	<.000	1.55
Suspiciousness	-.42	.13	.007	.6
Withdrawal	-.81	.15	<.000	1.09
Eccentricity	-.47	.18	.050	.53
Perceptual Dysfunction	-.27	.08	.487	.35
Unusual Beliefs & Experiences	-.21	.12	.413	.34
Attention Seeking	.17	.15	.824	.28
Callousness	-.30	.11	.036	.47
Deceitfulness	-.24	.12	.246	.36
Grandiosity	-.07	.13	.994	.11
Manipulativeness	-.13	.13	.918	.18
Distractibility	-.26	.17	.543	.29
Impulsivity	-.24	.15	.476	.33
Irresponsibility	-.34	.11	.011	.56
Rigid Perfectionism	.15	.16	.928	.19
Risk Taking	.27	.14	.262	.37
Negative Affectivity	-.13	.12	.883	.23
Detachment	-.89	.12	<.000	1.53
Antagonism	-.14	.11	.688	.25
Disinhibition	-.28	.11	.085	.44
Psychoticism	-.28	.11	.075	.50

Note. Significant values are presented in boldface font.

Table C4. Sidak post hoc tests between personality traits and secure & fearful-avoidant attachment patterns.

	Mean Differences	Std. Error	<i>p</i>	Cohen's <i>d</i>
Anxiousness	-.94	.12	<.000	1.14
Emotional Lability	-.80	.10	<.000	1.18
Hostility	-.75	.10	<.000	1.04
Perseveration	-.63	.10	<.000	.92
Restricted Affectivity	.04	.10	.999	.06
Separation Insecurity	-.97	.10	<.000	1.41
Submissiveness	-.62	.10	<.000	.86
Anhedonia	-.68	.11	<.000	.96
Depressivity	-.55	.10	<.000	.89
Intimacy Avoidance	-.22	.09	.096	.34
Suspiciousness	-.70	.09	<.000	1.15
Withdrawal	-.40	.11	.001	.56
Eccentricity	-.56	.13	<.000	.68
Perceptual Dysfunction	-.33	.07	<.000	.66
Unusual Beliefs & Experiences	-.37	.09	<.000	.64
Attention Seeking	-.54	.11	<.000	.71
Callousness	-.11	.08	.618	.21
Deceitfulness	-.46	.08	<.000	.80
Grandiosity	-.26	.09	.019	.41
Manipulativeness	-.31	.09	.006	.48
Distractibility	-.69	.12	<.000	.87
Impulsivity	-.63	.10	<.000	.76
Irresponsibility	-.25	.08	.006	.52
Rigid Perfectionism	.47	.11	<.000	.66

Risk Taking	-.32	.10	.005	.47
Negative Affectivity	-.90	.08	<.000	1.59
Detachment	-.43	.08	<.000	.80
Antagonism	-.34	.07	<.000	.66
Disinhibition	-.49	.08	<.000	.95
Psychoticism	-.42	.08	<.000	.80

Note. Significant values are presented in boldface font.

Table C5. Correlations between parental, peer, and romantic rejection reactions and PID-5-SF scores.

	Parental			Peer			Romantic		
	Externalizing	Internalizing	& Normative	Externalizing	Internalizing &	Normative	Externalizing	Internalizing	& Normative
Negative Affectivity	.35	.45	.01	.30	.45	.02	.31	.49	<.00
Detachment	.25	.33	-.26	.26	.33	-.23	.21	.30	-.27
Antagonism	.33	.13	-.17	.43	.14	-.16	.36	.13	-.14
Disinhibition	.35	.38	-.11	.40	.41	-.05	.28	.36	.08
Psychoticism	.32	.28	-.19	.34	.26	-.17	.29	.25	-.16

Note. Significant values are presented in boldface font.

Table C6. Correlations between externalizing/internalizing/normative rejection reactions on PID-5-SF facet scores.

	Parental			Peer			Romantic		
	Externalizing	Internalizing	& Normative	Externalizing	Internalizing	& Normative	Externalizing	Internalizing	& Normative
Anxiousness	.23	.42	-.01	.23	.43	.01	.25	.46	.00
Emotional Lability	.36	.40	-.01	.32	.37	-.02	.30	.40	-.04
Hostility	.38	.28	-.04	.43	.30	-.09	.31	.32	-.13
Perseveration	.29	.39	-.06	.31	.42	-.02	.26	.36	-.05
Restricted Affectivity	-.08	.05	.23	-.15	-.02	.25	-.02	.02	.24
Separation Insecurity	.31	.32	.03	.22	.32	.06	.24	.37	.04
Submissiveness	.20	.36	-.04	.20	.39	.02	.17	.29	-.05
Suspiciousness	.34	.31	-.15	.41	.31	-.14	.29	.28	-.15
Depressivity	.27	.41	-.22	.27	.38	-.15	.28	.34	-.21

Anhedonia	.30	.41	-.20	.27	.40	-.15	.25	.35	-.20
Intimacy Avoidance	.09	.12	-.17	.11	.12	-.17	.06	.08	-.19
Withdrawal	.20	.27	-.25	.25	.28	-.25	.19	.27	-.27
Attention Seeking	.28	.15	.02	.23	.12	.02	.26	.15	.05
Callousness	.26	.02	-.26	.34	.02	-.25	.26	.03	-.23
Deceitfulness	.34	.18	-.14	.42	.18	-.15	.36	.17	-.14
Grandiosity	.24	.08	-.14	.33	.10	-.15	.28	.09	.01
Manipulativeness	.27	.08	-.15	.35	.08	-.12	.28	.07	-.10
Distractibility	.25	.40	-.02	.26	.42	.04	.20	.40	.01
Impulsivity	.29	.25	-.12	.36	.28	-.08	.19	.20	-.10
Irresponsibility	.35	.26	-.15	.39	.29	-.11	.32	.26	-.16
Rigid Perfectionism	-.24	-.28	.00	-.25	-.28	.07	-.21	-.32	.00
Risk Taking	.26	.11	-.17	.35	.09	-.16	.23	.05	-.16
Eccentricity	.26	.30	-.16	.28	.29	-.12	.20	.26	-.11
Perceptual Dysfunction	.27	.19	-.18	.28	.19	-.17	.27	.19	-.17
Unusual Beliefs and Experiences	.28	.18	-.14	.31	.15	-.18	.28	.18	-.16

Note. Significant values are presented in boldface font.

Table C7. Correlations between overall mean rejection reaction scores PID-5-SF Domain scores

	Overall Externalizing	Overall Internalizing	Overall Normative
Negative Affectivity	.35	.53	.01
Detachment	.27	.36	-.30
Antagonism	.42	.14	-.19
Disinhibition	.38	.44	-.10
Psychoticism	.35	.30	-.21

Note. Significant values are presented in boldface font.

Table C8. Interaction effects of attachment on the relationship between PID-5 trait domains and externalizing reactions to parental rejection.

EXTERNALIZING REACTIONS TO PARENTAL REJECTION & ATTACHMENT INTERACTIONS						
		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized β	t	p
		β	Std. Error			
Negative Affect	Preoccupied	-.33	.17	-.29	-1.97	.050
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.01	.17	.00	.03	.977
	Dismissing	-.19	.25	-.07	-.76	.450
	Secure	.03	.15	.02	.19	.852
Detachment	Preoccupied	.00	.19	.00	.01	.992
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.06	.18	-.04	-.34	.734
	Dismissing	-.10	.25	-.05	-.40	.693
	Secure	.12	.17	.06	.73	.466
Antagonism	Preoccupied	.06	.23	.02	.27	.787
	Fearful-Avoidant	.05	.19	.02	.24	.808
	Dismissing	-.26	.22	-.09	-1.14	.253
	Secure	-.09	.18	-.04	-.51	.614
Disinhibition	Preoccupied	-.06	.20	-.04	-.31	.760
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.02	.19	-.01	-.09	.927
	Dismissing	-.20	.21	-.08	-.96	.337
	Secure	-.03	.16	-.02	-.21	.835
Psychoticism	Preoccupied	-.03	.19	-.02	-.18	.859
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.14	.18	-.08	-.76	.449
	Dismissing	-.26	.25	-.09	-1.03	.305
	Secure	.04	.17	.02	.23	.822

Note. Significant values are presented in boldface font.

Table C9. Interaction effects of attachment on the relationship between PID-5 trait domains and internalizing reactions to parental rejection.

INTERNALIZING REACTIONS TO PARENTAL REJECTION & ATTACHMENT INTERACTIONS						
		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized β	t	p
		β	Std. Error			
Negative Affect	Preoccupied	-.31	.19	-.23	-.167	.100
	Fearful-Avoidant	.12	.19	.09	.60	.550
	Dismissing	.09	.29	.03	.31	.755
	Secure	-.07	.17	-.04	-.44	.662
Detachment	Preoccupied	.16	.22	.08	.76	.449
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.05	.21	-.02	-.22	.829
	Dismissing	-.49	.29	-.22	-1.73	.085
	Secure	.15	.19	.06	.76	.449
Antagonism	Preoccupied	-.29	.28	-.08	-1.02	.309
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.13	.24	-.06	-.55	.586
	Dismissing	-.40	.28	-.11	-1.39	.165
	Secure	.31	.22	.12	1.43	.155
Disinhibition	Preoccupied	-.23	.23	-.11	-.98	.327
	Fearful-Avoidant	.01	.22	.01	.04	.967
	Dismissing	-.14	.24	-.05	-.57	.567
	Secure	-.07	.18	-.03	-.36	.720
Psychoticism	Preoccupied	.06	.23	.03	.28	.783
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.20	.22	-.09	-.89	.375
	Dismissing	-.37	.30	-.10	-1.21	.228
	Secure	-.06	.20	-.02	-.29	.770

Note. Significant values are presented in boldface font.

Table C10. Interaction effects of attachment on the relationship between PID-5 trait domains and externalizing reactions to peer rejection.

EXTERNALIZING REACTIONS TO PEER REJECTION & ATTACHMENT INTERACTIONS						
		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized β	t	p
		β	Std. Error			
Negative Affect	Preoccupied	-.56	.18	-.45	-3.12	.002
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.11	.19	-.09	-.58	.561
	Dismissing	.04	.28	.02	.16	.873
	Secure	.18	.16	.10	1.12	.263
Detachment	Preoccupied	-.01	.20	-.00	-.03	.978
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.12	.19	-.06	-.62	.537
	Dismissing	-.10	.26	-.05	-.38	.706
	Secure	.24	.18	.11	1.35	.178
Antagonism	Preoccupied	.20	.23	.07	.87	.387
	Fearful-Avoidant	.02	.19	.01	.13	.900
	Dismissing	-.42	.23	-.13	-1.84	.067
	Secure	.03	.18	.01	.17	.869
Disinhibition	Preoccupied	-.24	.20	-.13	-1.16	.245
	Fearful-Avoidant	.20	.20	.11	1.01	.312
	Dismissing	-.16	.22	-.06	-.75	.456
	Secure	-.06	.17	-.03	-.37	.711
Psychoticism	Preoccupied	.13	.20	.06	.67	.507
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.10	.20	-.05	-.49	.622
	Dismissing	-.34	.26	-.10	-1.27	.204
	Secure	-.05	.18	-.02	-.30	.764

Note. Significant values are presented in boldface font.

Table C11. Interaction effects of attachment on the relationship between PID-5 trait domains and internalizing reactions to peer rejection.

INTERNALIZING REACTIONS TO PEER REJECTION & ATTACHMENT INTERACTIONS						
		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized		<i>p</i>
		β	Std. Error	β	<i>t</i>	
Negative Affect	Preoccupied	-.47	.19	-.33	-2.43	.016
	Fearful-Avoidant	.19	.20	.14	.96	.336
	Dismissing	.18	.30	.05	.59	.559
	Secure	.04	.17	.02	.20	.842
Detachment	Preoccupied	.06	.22	.03	.29	.772
	Fearful-Avoidant	.14	.22	.07	.66	.513
	Dismissing	-.60	.29	-.26	-2.04	.042
	Secure	.10	.20	.04	.50	.618
Antagonism	Preoccupied	-.13	.29	-.04	-.45	.653
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.01	.24	-.00	-.03	.974
	Dismissing	-.38	.30	-.10	-1.29	.197
	Secure	.17	.22	.06	.76	.451
Disinhibition	Preoccupied	-.21	.23	-.10	-.92	.356
	Fearful-Avoidant	.17	.22	.08	.76	.449
	Dismissing	-.14	.25	-.04	-.57	.568
	Secure	-.14	.19	-.06	-.74	.458
Psychoticism	Preoccupied	.28	.23	.12	1.20	.230
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.44	.23	-.19	-1.91	.057
	Dismissing	-.20	.32	-.05	-.63	.528
	Secure	-.09	.21	-.04	-.45	.654

Note. Significant values are presented in boldface font.

Table C12. Interaction effects of attachment on the relationship between PID-5 trait domains and externalizing reactions to romantic rejection.

EXTERNALIZING REACTIONS TO ROMANTIC REJECTION & ATTACHMENT INTERACTIONS						
		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized	<i>t</i>	<i>p</i>
		β	Std. Error	β		
Negative Affect	Preoccupied	-.40	.17	-.34	-2.35	.019
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.28	.17	-.24	-1.59	.112
	Dismissing	-.13	.26	-.05	-.49	.627
	Secure	.32	.15	.19	2.12	.035
Detachment	Preoccupied	.16	.19	.10	.85	.394
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.26	.18	-.15	-1.46	.145
	Dismissing	.05	.25	.03	.20	.839
	Secure	.15	.17	.07	.86	.389
Antagonism	Preoccupied	.30	.22	.10	1.33	.185
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.27	.19	-.14	-1.45	.147
	Dismissing	-.03	.22	-.01	-.14	.891
	Secure	-.06	.17	-.03	-.33	.745
Disinhibition	Preoccupied	-.26	.21	-.15	-1.27	.205
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.23	.19	-.14	-1.21	.229
	Dismissing	-.22	.21	-.09	-1.05	.296
	Secure	.27	.17	.14	1.61	.108
Psychoticism	Preoccupied	.07	.19	.04	.37	.710
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.23	.19	-.12	-1.24	.218
	Dismissing	-.12	.25	-.04	-.45	.652
	Secure	.00	.17	.00	.02	.988

Note. Significant values are presented in boldface font.

Table C13. Interaction effects of attachment on the relationship between PID-5 trait domains and internalizing reactions to romantic rejection.

INTERNALIZING REACTIONS TO ROMANTIC REJECTION & ATTACHMENT INTERACTIONS						
		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized β	t	p
		β	Std. Error			
Negative Affect	Preoccupied	-.25	.19	-.18	-1.35	.178
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.02	.19	-.02	-.13	.900
	Dismissing	-.22	.29	-.06	-.74	.461
	Secure	.12	.17	.06	.71	.482
Detachment	Preoccupied	.37	.22	.18	1.70	.091
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.26	.22	-.12	-1.21	.226
	Dismissing	-.43	.29	-.19	-1.48	.140
	Secure	.26	.21	.10	1.24	.217
Antagonism	Preoccupied	.15	.29	.04	.51	.612
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.18	.24	-.08	-.75	.455
	Dismissing	-.43	.29	-.12	-1.48	.140
	Secure	.17	.23	.06	.71	.477
Disinhibition	Preoccupied	-.01	.24	-.00	-.04	.968
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.05	.23	-.02	-.21	.838
	Dismissing	-.42	.26	-.13	-1.62	.110
	Secure	-.06	.20	-.02	-.28	.778
Psychoticism	Preoccupied	.35	.23	.15	1.56	.121
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.53	.23	-.23	-2.32	.021
	Dismissing	-.39	.32	-.10	-1.21	.228
	Secure	-.05	.21	-.02	-.23	.822

Note. Significant values are presented in boldface font.

Table C14. Interaction effects of attachment on the relationship between PID-5 trait domains and externalizing reactions to overall rejection.

EXTERNALIZING REACTIONS TO OVERALL REJECTION & ATTACHMENT INTERACTIONS						
		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized β	t	p
		β	Std. Error			
Negative Affect	Preoccupied	-.43	.16	-.40	-2.80	.005
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.11	.16	-.10	-.68	.495
	Dismissing	-.08	.23	-.03	-.35	.726
	Secure	.18	.14	.12	1.28	.201
Detachment	Preoccupied	.07	.17	.05	.41	.684
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.13	.16	-.08	-.79	.431
	Dismissing	-.04	.22	-.03	-.19	.848
	Secure	.15	.15	.08	1.00	.320
Antagonism	Preoccupied	.22	.20	.08	1.09	.278
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.05	.17	-.03	-.29	.773
	Dismissing	-.24	.20	-.09	-1.24	.216
	Secure	-.07	.16	-.03	-.42	.673
Disinhibition	Preoccupied	-.12	.18	-.07	-.64	.523
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.02	.17	-.01	-.09	.928
	Dismissing	-.19	.19	-.08	-1.04	.298
	Secure	.04	.15	.02	.24	.808
Psychoticism	Preoccupied	.14	.18	.08	.81	.422
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.19	.17	-.11	-1.13	.261
	Dismissing	-.24	.23	-.09	-1.07	.284
	Secure	-.01	.16	-.01	-.07	.945

Note. Significant values are presented in boldface font.

Table C15. Interaction effects of attachment on the relationship between PID-5 trait domains and internalizing reactions to overall rejection.

INTERNALIZING REACTIONS TO OVERALL REJECTION & ATTACHMENT INTERACTIONS						
		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized β	t	p
		β	Std. Error			
Negative Affect	Preoccupied	-.31	.16	-.24	-1.88	.061
	Fearful-Avoidant	.07	1.7	.06	.42	.672
	Dismissing	-.04	.26	-.01	-.15	.884
	Secure	.03	.15	.01	.17	.865
Detachment	Preoccupied	.26	.19	.14	1.35	.180
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.07	.19	-.04	-.36	.717
	Dismissing	-.57	.26	-.28	-2.25	.025
	Secure	.17	.18	.08	.94	.350
Antagonism	Preoccupied	-.12	.25	-.04	-.48	.634
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.08	.22	-.04	-.39	.696
	Dismissing	-.40	.26	-.12	-1.53	.128
	Secure	.20	.20	.08	1.00	.320
Disinhibition	Preoccupied	-.10	.20	-.06	-.52	.606
	Fearful-Avoidant	.01	.19	.01	.06	.951
	Dismissing	-.29	.22	-.10	-1.31	.190
	Secure	-.09	.17	-.04	-.53	.598
Psychoticism	Preoccupied	.20	.20	.10	.98	.329
	Fearful-Avoidant	-.40	.20	-.20	-2.01	.045
	Dismissing	-.41	.29	-.12	-1.41	.160
	Secure	-.03	.19	-.01	-.15	.877

Note. Significant values are presented in boldface font.

Table C16. Interaction effects of gender on the relationship between PID-5 trait domains and externalizing reactions to rejection.

EXTERNALIZING REACTIONS TO REJECTION & MALE VERSUS FEMALE INTERACTIONS						
		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized β	t	p
		β	Std. Error			
Negative Affect	Overall	-.12	.10	-.13	-1.24	.216
	Parental	-.09	.10	-.08	-.83	.408
	Peer	-.07	.11	-.06	-.62	.533
	Romantic	-.16	.11	-.16	-1.52	.128
Detachment	Overall	-.13	.12	-.02	-.22	.830
	Parental	-.01	.13	-.01	-.09	.931
	Peer	-.07	.13	-.05	-.54	.592
	Romantic	-.04	.13	-.03	-.32	.752
Antagonism	Overall	-.47	.13	-.31	-3.61	<.000
	Parental	-.58	.15	-.35	-3.90	<.000
	Peer	-.45	.15	-.26	-2.98	.003
	Romantic	-.41	.15	-.24	-2.73	.007
Disinhibition	Overall	-.18	.12	-.15	-1.56	.119
	Parental	-.22	.13	-.17	-1.70	.090
	Peer	-.19	.13	-.13	-1.39	.166
	Romantic	-.17	.14	-.13	-1.27	.203
Psychoticism	Overall	-.33	.12	-.24	-2.62	.009
	Parental	-.38	.14	-.26	-2.81	.005
	Peer	-.41	.14	-.26	-2.87	.004
	Romantic	-.29	.14	-.19	-2.05	.041

Note. Significant values are presented in boldface font.

Table C17. Interaction effects of gender on the relationship between PID-5 trait domains and internalizing reactions to rejection.

INTERNALIZING REACTIONS TO REJECTION & MALE VERSUS FEMALE INTERACTIONS						
		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized β	t	p
		β	Std. Error			
Negative Affect	Overall	-.01	.10	-.01	-.08	.933
	Parental	-.14	.12	-.12	-1.21	.228
	Peer	.10	.12	.08	.79	.431
	Romantic	.05	.12	.04	.38	.701
Detachment	Overall	-.16	.14	-.11	-1.18	.239
	Parental	-.25	.15	-.16	-1.69	.091
	Peer	-.06	.15	-.03	-.37	.714
	Romantic	-.08	.15	-.05	-.54	.588
Antagonism	Overall	-.49	.17	-.27	-2.84	.005
	Parental	-.58	.19	-.29	-3.09	.002
	Peer	-.54	.19	-.26	-2.79	.006
	Romantic	-.34	.19	-.17	-1.74	.083
Disinhibition	Overall	-.21	.14	-.15	-1.49	.136
	Parental	-.30	.15	.19	-1.96	.050
	Peer	-.11	.16	-.07	-.72	.474
	Romantic	-.03	.16	-.02	-.20	.845
Psychoticism	Overall	-.17	.15	-.10	-1.09	.275
	Parental	-.34	.17	-.19	-2.05	.041
	Peer	-.07	.17	-.04	-.39	.700
	Romantic	-.16	.17	-.09	-.91	.362

Note. Significant values are presented in boldface font.

Table C18. Interaction effects of attachment on the relationship between Separation Insecurity and reactions to rejection.

ATTACHMENT INTERACTIONS: REJECTION REACTIONS & SEPARATION INSECURITY						
		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized		
		β	Std. Error	β	t	p
EXTERNALIZING						
<u>Parental</u>	Preoccupied	-.50	.15	-.43	-3.41	.001
<u>Romantic</u>	Preoccupied	-.49	.15	-.40	-3.24	.001
<u>Peer</u>	Preoccupied	-.64	.16	-.51	-4.05	.000
<u>Romantic</u>	Secure	.12	.13	.08	.95	.342
INTERNALIZING						
<u>Peer</u>	Preoccupied	-.45	.18	-.32	-2.52	.012
NORMATIVE						
<u>Romantic</u>	Dismissing	-.64	.16	-.51	-4.05	<.000

Note. Significant values are presented in boldface font.

APPENDIX D

Separation Insecurity moderation figures.

Figure D1. The interaction effect of attachment (preoccupied versus non-preoccupied) on the relationship between Separation Insecurity and externalizing reactions to parental rejection.

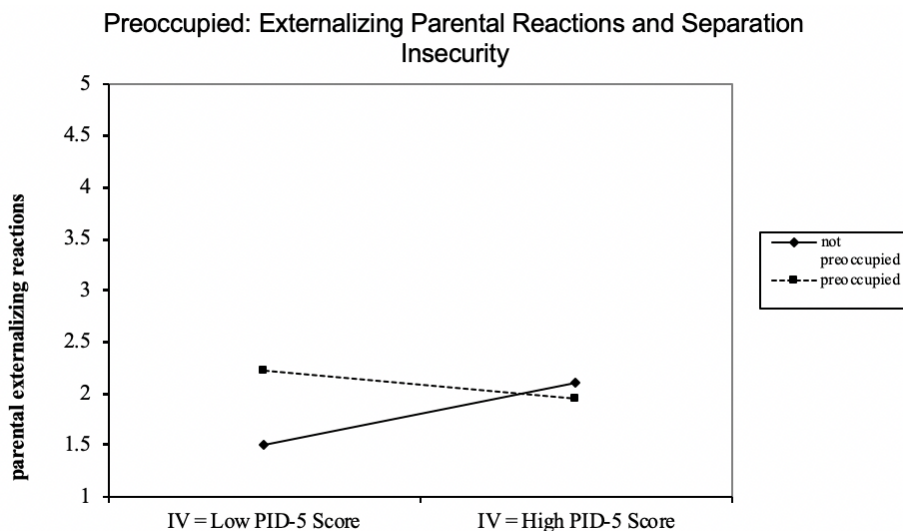


Figure D2. The interaction effect of attachment (preoccupied versus non-preoccupied) on the relationship between Separation Insecurity and externalizing reactions to romantic rejection.

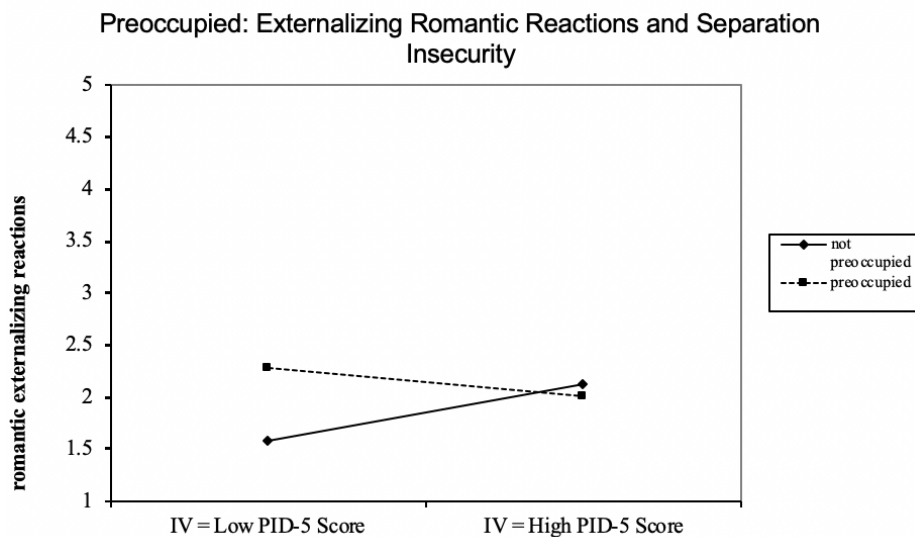


Figure D3. The interaction effect of attachment (preoccupied versus non-preoccupied) on the relationship between Separation Insecurity and externalizing reactions to peer rejection.

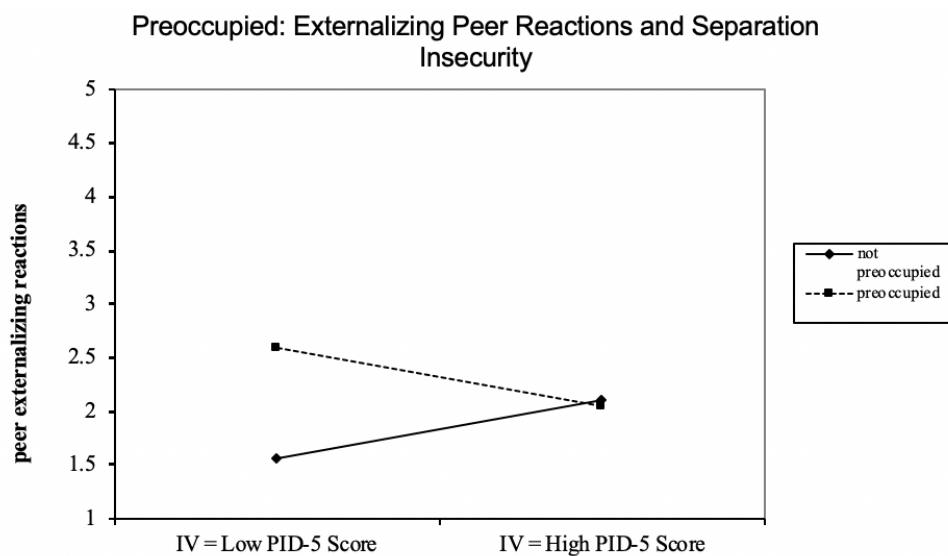
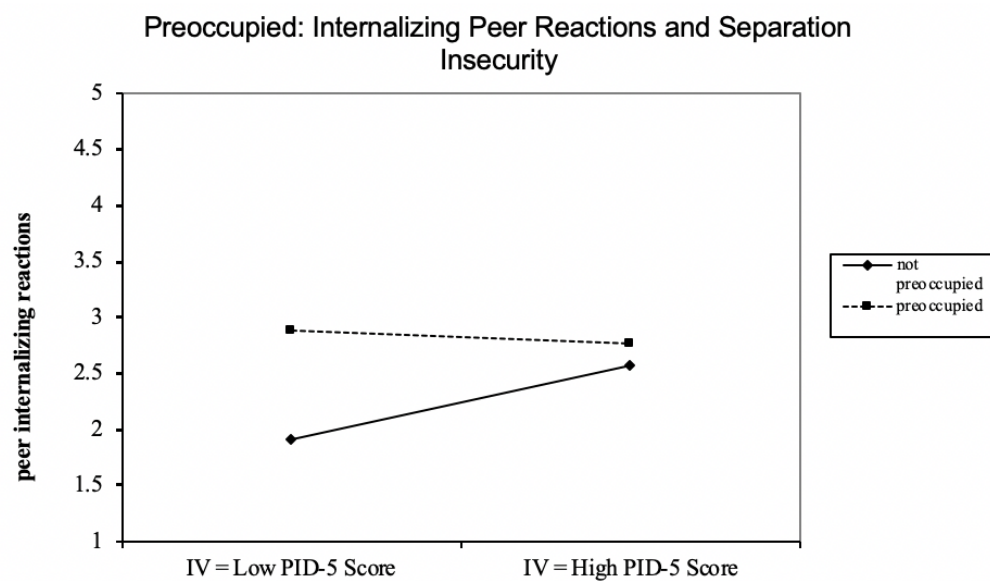


Figure D4. The interaction effect of attachment (preoccupied versus non-preoccupied) on the relationship between Separation Insecurity and internalizing reactions to peer rejection.



VITA

Kelsey Priebe

EDUCATION

Sam Houston State University

August 2018-

Present

M.A. in Clinical Psychology; GPA: 4.00

Master's Thesis: *Perceived Rejection in Personality Psychopathology: The Effect of Attachment & Gender*. Proposed: April, 2019; Projected Defense: March, 2020

Lawrence University

June 2014

B.A. in Psychology & Government; GPA: 3.32

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY AFFILIATIONS

Society for Personality Assessment

2019

American Psychological Law Society

2019

Psi Chi

2019

Sam Houston State University Graduate Student Psychology Organization

2018

AWARDS AND ACADEMIC HONORS

Department of Health Service's Discretionary Merit Compensation Award Recipient

2017

Dean's List, Lawrence University

2013-2014

Global Perspectives Scholarship

2010

Alumni Scholarship

2010

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Priebe, K., Sorem, E., Anderson, J. L. (In Preparation). Perceived Rejection in

Personality Psychopathology: The Effect of Attachment & Gender.

Priebe, K., Sorem, E., Anderson, J. L. (In Preparation) Examining the Association

Between Attachment Patterns and Externalizing Personality Psychopathology.

Sorem, E., **Priebe, K.,** Anderson, J. L. (In Preparation). Personality Psychopathology and

the Role of Self-Compassion.

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Priebe, K., Sorem, E., & Anderson, J. L. (March, 2020). *Examining the Association*

Between Attachment Patterns and Externalizing Personality Psychopathology.

Presentation accepted to the 2020 Society for Personality Assessment Annual

Meeting, San Diego, CA.

Sorem, E., **Priebe, K.**, & Anderson, J. L. (March, 2020). *Personality Psychopathology and the Role of Self-Compassion*. Presentation accepted to the 2020 Society for Personality Assessment Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Sam Houston State University

Assessment of Personality Psychopathology Lab

September 2019-

Present *Research Assistant and Principal Investigator*

Director: Jaime L. Anderson, Ph.D.

- Successfully proposed my master's thesis
- Collaborated on a grant-funded data collection, including:
 - Completing IRB submission
 - Preparing Qualtrics surveys for Amazon Mechanical Turk and SONA
 - Leading or co-leading manuscript preparation
- Assisted in lab data collection at a local probation department, including administering interview-rated measures (i.e., SCID-Alternative Model for Personality Disorder [SCID-AMPD] and Psychopathy Checklist: Screening Version [PCL:SV]), and collecting physiological data (i.e., galvanic skin response and heart rate)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Mendota Mental Health Institute, Madison, WI

April 2016-

August 2018

Psychiatric Care Technician

- Performed medical and psychiatric duties as a state certified nursing assistant on a forensic unit
- Conducted individual contacts with 4-5 patients per shift and documented any changes to their mood and symptom statuses
- Led group therapy activities
- Assisted in facilitating occupational therapy groups
- Maintained unit safety and assisted in crisis interventions

PRACTICUM EXPERIENCE

Sam Houston State University

August 2019-

Present

Huntsville, TX

Supervisor: Marsha Harman

- Conducted therapy with student mock clients weekly and utilized therapeutic micro skills including encouragers, summarizing, empathy, and paraphrasing
- Completed 40 face-to-face hours with mock clients

Ferguson Unit, Texas Department of Criminal Justice

August 2019-

December 2019

Midway, TX

Supervisor: Sheri Nichols-Woodward

- Observed suicide assessments conducted in solitary and segregated units
- Observed group therapy sessions on anger management and stress reduction techniques

- Sat in on individual therapy sessions with prisoners from general population and segregation units
- Sat in on psychiatric and medication management check-ups with the visiting physician's assistant

Counseling Center, Sam Houston State University

January 2020-

Present

Huntsville, TX

Supervisor: Sarika Vadrevu

- Conduct individual counseling with 8-10 clients per week
- Co-facilitate a treatment process group
- Observe and participate in client screenings
- Provide prompt and accurate clinical documentation
- Collaborate with each client to create and carryout an individualized treatment plan
- Present informal and formal case conceptualizations during weekly didactics

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX

January 2019-

Present

- *Teaching Assistant, Social Statistics* September 2019-
Present
- *Teaching Assistant, Personality Psychology* May 2019-
August 2019

- *Teaching Assistant, Health Psychology* May 2019-
August 2019
- *Teaching Assistant, Research Methods* January 2019-
May 2019
 - *Primary Instructor for lab section*

TRAINING/CERTIFICATIONS

- Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) Online Course
- Nursing Assistant
- Dialectical Based Therapy group facilitator