

ВЕЛИКОТЪРНОВСКИ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ
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ST. CYRIL AND ST. METHODIUS
UNIVERSITY OF VELIKO TARNOVO

REVIEW

by prof. Velislava Atanasova Chavdarova, PhD

University of Veliko Tarnovo "St. Cyril and St. Methodius"

Of a Dissertation

**PERSONALITY AS A DETERMINANT OF THE PARENTING STYLE OF
ADOLESCENT PARENTS**

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for awarding the educational and scientific degree "doctor"

Field of higher education: 3. Social, economic and legal sciences, Professional direction:

3.2. Psychology

Doctoral program "Pedagogical and Age Psychology"

Received materials: dissertation work, abstract

Supervisor

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1. Relevance of the scientific problem considered in the dissertation

The work presented for assessment undoubtedly falls into the research profile of pedagogical and age psychology, saturated with many debatable and still unresolved questions. It is precisely this scientific status that generates the problematic nature of some topics, among which is that of the indisputable influence of parenting style on the formation of children's personality.

The topic is relevant because it is related to the challenge of searching for reasoned answers both for adolescents in transition and for their parents. These answers immanently contain an analysis of the social and emotional impact of the parents, which can be

particularly significant for the development of the adolescent and affect his overall growth. On the other hand, the significance is also determined by the lack of scientific research that deals with personality problems in terms of patterns of thinking, feelings, social adjustment and behavior, which manifest themselves constantly over time and have a significant impact on expectations, self-perceptions, values and attitudes of the individual.

The research focus is current, interesting and dissertationable. Undoubtedly, the request responds to an ominous problem of our time, solved in the specific angle of directing the attention of parents to how their personality and their style of upbringing determines the problems that their child goes through in the transition to adulthood and what is the role of understanding and the empathy to overcome them.

2. Data on the doctoral student

The author of the dissertation is a full-time doctoral student at the Department of Psychology at Neofit Rilski State University. Sofia Musa's professional experience is related to teaching. She builds on her pedagogical education with a master's program in social pedagogy at SSU. The author is a correct and precise researcher who manages to verify her experience in working with a useful scientific product, providing a tool for practical work.

The deposited documentation is in order and meets all the criteria in terms of the procedure for conducting the present defense. The information from Sofia Musa's autobiography testifies to a step-by-step and dignified path to professional realization in the field of psychology.

3. Data for the dissertation and the abstract

The dissertation has a classic structure and contains 137 pages, content-wise divided into an introduction, three chapters, summary, conclusions, contributions, bibliography and appendices. The bibliography contains 154 titles in Latin. The development is illustrated with 24 tables and 31 figures.

I assess the theoretical basis of the development as academic, adequate to the problem and sufficiently innovative. Synthesized and intelligent, the introductory text very well reveals the motivation and intent of the doctoral student's research efforts and the need for further research on the importance of parent personality, parenting status (styles), and family

roles in child rearing. Structurally, formulated tasks and hypothesis of the dissertation work are missing.

The clearly formulated objective at the very beginning forms an expectation on the part of the reader to actually learn more about the role of the parents' personality and the practiced parenting styles and tasks, which vary widely - from care related to feeding and maintaining the hygiene of the child, through education in discipline and purposefulness, to the formation of family values and a sense of responsibility.

The first main chapter has an analytical-interpretive character, revealing the effects of parental authority and setting boundaries on children's behavior and emotions, determinants of parental authority and types of parenting styles.

Sofia has understood not only correctly, but also in depth the logic of established social science approaches to explain the effects of parent-child relationships on child development. The analysis of periodization theories and research perspectives of parenting is distinguished by complexity, skilfully achieved by revealing the similarities and differences in the vision of biological, psychological, bio-social and systemic models - with a detailed presentation of their varieties.

I definitely believe that the theoretical framework of the dissertation correctly sets the model of the study, increasing its heuristic potential. I value this systematic conceptualization as a contribution to psychological practice.

The second main chapter presents the doctoral student's work on the empirical research conducted with 132 Greek couples with at least one child aged 12-18 years in three cities in Greece - Goumenitsa, Kilkis and Yanitsa. The study was conducted in the period March - July 2021. The mean age of mothers was 36.19 ± 4.81 and the mean age of fathers was 39.67 ± 5.94 years.

The study uses integrated qualitative and quantitative methods to describe and investigate different parenting styles, parental personality and their possible effects on adolescent behavior.

The research toolkit includes 5 questionnaires - the Four-Factor Parenting Style Questionnaire (PS-FFQ), the Eysenck Personality Questionnaire (EPQ), the Spielberger Anxiety Test (STAI), the Personality Organization Assessment Questionnaire (IPO and

Rother 's Locus of Control Scale . My conclusion regarding the methodology of the empirical study is that the research model is described precisely, in detail and comprehensively. The subject, the object, the goal and the tasks are unambiguously and precisely formulated. The hypotheses thus formulated need to be refined. An adequate methodological toolkit is used. The applied statistical analysis of the data is adequate and consistent with the requirements for the development of a dissertation work.

In the third chapter, the results of the empirical research are presented and adequate conclusions are formulated related to the main goal - to investigate the predicative role of parents' personality traits on parenting styles (authoritative, authoritarian, permissive and neglectful), differentiated by gender and social role (mother and father) on Greek adolescents.

The results show that at both group and individual levels, authoritative parenting style is most preferred and neglectful parenting style is least preferred by mothers and fathers of Greek adolescents.

The general conclusion of the study is that mothers are oriented towards more positive and effective parenting styles than fathers. A significantly higher proportion of mothers compared to fathers who demonstrate an authoritative or permissive parenting style and vice versa - a significantly higher proportion of fathers compared to mothers who demonstrate an authoritarian or neglectful parenting style .

Regarding the qualitative and quantitative indicators of the dissertation work, I believe that the dissertation student has fulfilled the minimum national requirements under Art. 2b, para. 2 and 3 of ZRASRB and respectively according to Art. 24, para. 1 of the Regulations for the implementation of the RSARB. The submitted publications are relevant to the dissertation topic and demonstrate research erudition. The abstract summarizes and accurately reflects the content of the scientific work.

I believe that in relation to the procedure and the quality of the presented scientific production, no violations are registered. The dissertation is an original scientific work with undoubted merits.

4. Scientific contributions

Accepting the contributions formulated by the doctoral student, I find reason to emphasize the most significant ones:

1. Psychological knowledge on the subject of research perspectives and approaches to parenting styles, parental status and role, as well as their functioning mechanisms is analytically systematized.

2. Categorically and conceptually, the multitude of personal and social factors affecting the style of upbringing are specified.

3. By identifying the problematic cause-and-effect relationships determining the typical socio-psychological profile of teenagers and behavior at this age, as well as the specifics inherent in modern Greek society, the phenomenology of adolescence as a special stage of personal development has been thoroughly developed.

4. The design of the empirical study is correctly constructed, meaningfully argued and adequately tested with an appropriately selected methodology for the implementation of the organization and the conduct of the research procedures.

5. Professionally formed potential in the application of the diagnostic toolkit has been demonstrated, which is an indicator of achieved scientific competence on the part of the doctoral student.

6. As the most creative aspect and a valuable contribution to the applied side of psychological knowledge, I accept the proposed recommendations for preparing family education programs for parents.

7. The obtained results were used to formulate adequate guidelines for the work of family consultants to improve the communication skills of parents and the family as a whole and search for innovative practical solutions to the main problems of social adaptation and integration of adolescents during their transition from one life stage to another.

3. Notes, questions, recommendations.

In order to popularize the dissertation work, I recommend that it be published as a book, as it will be useful to a wide range of specialists in the field of developmental psychology and educational psychology.

Conclusion.

On the basis of the above analysis of Sofia Musa's dissertation on the topic "**PERSONALITY AS A DETERMINANT OF THE PARENTING STYLE OF THE PARENTS OF ADOLESCENTS**", I give my POSITIVE assessment of the work and strongly recommend the respected Scientific Jury to award Sofia Musa, PhD student at the Department of PSYCHOLOGY in the "Neofit Rilski" University of Applied **Sciences, the educational and scientific degree "doctor"** in the Department of higher education: 3. Social, economic and legal sciences, Professional direction: 3.2. Psychology - Pedagogical and age psychology.

13.08. 2023

Signature:

city of V. Tarnovo

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