

Undergraduate students' personality traits: relationship with students' gender and parental socioeconomic factors

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Abstract

The study examines in emerging adulthood, the relationship of personality traits Big Five Factors Model/BFFM to gender and socio-economic factors of parents. The sample 301 Greek undergraduate students from the Pedagogical Department of Primary Education, Education Sciences and the Department of Computer Engineering, Polytechnic School was examined. Students completed the International Personality Item Pool/IPIP-50 item-Goldberg, 1999, an online self-report questionnaire, and answered questions about specific socioeconomic factors, the educational level and the profession of the father and mother separately. The Statistical Package for Social Sciences/SPSS, 26.0 was used for statistical analysis. The findings confirm the differences between the two sexes in terms of the Emotional stability/Neuroticism and Agreeableness scales. Also, both parents' low educational level and occupation were associated with higher Agreeableness and the father's low educational level with higher Conscientiousness. The research findings are consistent with the view that the gender difference in Neuroticism contributes to gender dimorphism. The difference between the two sexes on the scale of Agreeableness, according to other studies, reinforces the view that it is a cross-cultural difference. The personality characteristics of students in the period of emerging adulthood seem to be influenced by parental socioeconomic factors in a different way. It is worth investigating more how the socio-economic characteristics of each parent separately affect parental care in modern conditions and in the national and social context.

Keywords: Personality traits/BFF, emerging adulthood, undergraduate students, gender, socioeconomic factors of parents