
NEWSLETTER

The Effect of Harsh Parenting on Smartphone Addiction of Adolescents

By Qi, D., Lin, Y., & Liu, Q.

Correspondence to: Qinxue Liu, Associate Professor, Central China Normal University, China. Email: qinxueliu@mail.ccnu.edu.cn

BASED on the questionnaire statistical results of 3,219 students from two non-boarding key secondary schools from Wuhan and Shiyan, the study published in *Psychological Development and Education Research* established the mediation effect model, regulating effect model, and intermediary effect model with regulation to explore the mediating effect of core self-evaluation in the process of smartphone addiction through harsh parenting among adolescents, and also the regulating effect of friendship quality. The main results are as follows:

- According to the analysis of harsh parenting, core self-evaluation, friendship quality. And smartphone addiction, it is concluded that all the variables were significantly correlated. Thereinto, harsh parenting has a significant negative correlation among core self-evaluation and friendship quality; core self-evaluation has a significant negative correlation among smartphone addiction and friendship quality; harsh parenting smartphone addiction; core self-evaluation was significantly positively correlated to friendship quality.
- A mediating effect model was established with harsh parenting as the predictive variable, smartphone addiction as the dependent variable, core self-evaluation as the mediating variable, and gender & grade as the control variables. The results showed that core self-evaluation plays a partial mediating effect between harsh parenting and smartphone addiction.
- A moderating effect model was established with harsh parenting as the independent variable, friendship quality as the moderating variable, core self-evaluation as the dependent variable, and gender & grade as the control variables. The results showed that friendship quality had a significant moderating effect on the prediction effect of harsh parenting on core self-evaluation. For the high friendship quality group, the core self-evaluation of adolescents decreased significantly with the increase of harsh parenting degree, while comparing

to the low friendship quality group the decline degree of the high friendship quality group was considerably high.

- Using the structural equation technology to conduct the integrated model examination of the two steps above-mentioned. The results showed that harsh parenting had a direct effect on adolescent smartphone addiction and also an indirect effect on adolescent smartphone addiction through core self-evaluation. Meanwhile, the effect of harsh parenting on core self-evaluation was moderated by friendship quality.

Source: Psychological Development and Education, 2020; 36(6):677-685.