

Recollections of Parental Practices, Current Attachment Style, and Perceptions of the Social Support Network

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This study investigated relationships between recollections of parental warmth and control and characteristics of the social support network, especially network orientation, and the extent to which this relationship is mediated by current attachment style. One hundred and thirty-nine American undergraduate students completed questionnaires regarding parental warmth and control, current attachment style, and various characteristics of the social support network. Analyses revealed that the more individuals recalled their fathers as having been warm, the more positive the network orientations they reported. Recalled father and mother warmth were positively associated with perceived amount of social support and recalled mother warmth was associated with satisfaction with perceived social support. Current secure attachment style was predicted by recollections of mother and father warmth, and current secure attachment style mediated the relation between perceived parental warmth and characteristics of the social support network. The implications of these findings are discussed.

Keywords : network orientation, social support network, attachment style, parental practices

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Since the concept of social support was first introduced by Weiss(1974) and Cobb(1976), there have been many studies on social support and its association with various aspects of an individual's psychological well being.

One of the variables that has recently received attention in social support research is network orientation, presumed to be important in the development of the social support network and support utilization(Barrera & Baca, 1990; Eckenrode, 1983; Tolsdorf, 1976; Vaux, Burda, & Stewart, 1986).

Tolsdorf(1976) first introduced the concept of "network orientation" to explain individual differences in help seeking. He defined network orientation as "beliefs, attitudes, and expectations about the potential usefulness of network members in providing help with life problems"(p.413). He suggested that people develop stable attitudes concerning the helpfulness of getting aid from their social networks, and concluded that one of the reasons support networks fail is because individuals do not seek or use help from them. Eckenrode(1983) and Hobfoll and Lerman(1988) also introduced "help-seeking beliefs" and "individuals' discomfort in seeking assistance," respectively, as conceptually similar to network orientation and found an important role for these variables in the social support process.

Vaux(1985, 1986, 1987, 1988) explored the concept of network orientation extensively. Based on Tolsdorf's (1976) construct, Vaux(1985; Vaux,

Burda, and Stewart, 1986) developed a self-report measure of negative network orientation, the Network Orientation Scale(NOS), which assesses an individual's unwillingness to use social support in times of needs. Vaux's(1985) factor analytic examination of the structure of network orientation in a sample of 80 college students revealed three major factors of negative network orientation: advisability/independence, negative help- seeking history, and mistrust. Numerous studies have demonstrated that the individual's orientation toward his or her social support network is associated with various aspects of social support processes, as well as the individual's psychological well-being. For example, individuals with negative network orientations reported fewer social support resources from their networks(Hobfoll & Lerman, 1988; Pretorius, 1993; Vaux, Burda, & Stewart, 1986; Vaux & Wood, 1987), perceived and received less social support from family and friends(Pretorius, 1993; Vaux, Burda, & Stewart, 1986), utilized less support in coping with stress (Eckenrode, 1983), and were less satisfied with received support(Barrera & Baca, 1990; Belle, Dill, & Burr, 1991; Vaux & Wood, 1987).

In addition to demonstrating an impact of network orientation on social support processes, studies have also revealed significant relationships between positive network orientation and psychological well-being, such as lower levels of depression and anxiety(Barrera & Baca, 1990; Gannon & Pardie, 1989; Garland & Zigler,

1994; Gruen, Schulberg, Nelson, Epstein, Weiss & Quinlan, 1994; Pretorius, 1994; Riley & Eckenrode, 1986), internal locus of control (Belle, Dill, & Burr, 1991; Eckenrode, 1983), high self-esteem (Belle, Dill, & Burr, 1991), and high intimacy with others (Hobfoll & Lerman, 1988). However, despite the importance of network orientation for understanding social support processes and psychological well being, relatively few studies have been conducted on the factors that contribute to the development of an individual's network orientation and the process through which a positive or negative network orientation develops. In one of the rare studies utilizing a longitudinal design with a sample of 52 elementary school children, Belle, Dill and Burr (1991) found that satisfaction with received support and internal locus of control influenced children's later positive network orientations. In addition, most of the relevant research on factors predictive of later network orientations has used retrospective reports from adults. For example, in a study investigating the relationship between women's reported histories of physical or sexual abuse in childhood and their current experiences of social support networks, Paniesin (1999) demonstrated that women who had a history of childhood abuse reported significantly more negative network orientations than women without such histories. In another study of women at risk, Goodman (1991) examined the differences in social support networks between homeless and

poor housed mothers. Among the various characteristics of the social support network that were assessed, significant differences between the housed and homeless mothers were found only on their network orientations, indicating that the homeless women showed more negative network orientations than the poor housed mothers. Goodman speculated that the experience of homelessness itself may have caused distrust in relationships among these mothers.

Thus, although the range of studies and samples is limited, there is some evidence that prior experiences with others in the social network may be related to the development of an individual's network orientation. According to attachment researchers, an individual's earliest relationship with others is the relationship with a caretaker, usually a mother, when he or she is an infant, and early experiences with a primary caregiver influence the internal working models that are related to later relationships (Bowlby, 1973, 1980, 1982). In a study of particular relevance to the current research, Wallace and Vaux (1993) found that college students with secure attachment styles were more positively oriented toward their support networks than those with avoidant or ambivalent attachment styles. Wallace and Vaux's findings (1993) also suggest that early attachment experience with parents might be a basis for an individual's later network orientation. Thus, an individual's orientation to the social support network may be influenced

by parental practices he or she experienced as a child.

While little attention has been given to network orientation as a function of parenting practices in childhood, there is some research that childhood parenting experiences influence later feelings about self and others (Collins & Read, 1990; Lamborn, Mounts, Steinberg, & Dornbusch, 1991). For example, Collins and Read (1990) examined the relation between experiences with parents in childhood and beliefs about oneself and others in adulthood. They found that individuals who described their parents as having been warm and responsive were more confident in depending on others and more comfortable being close to other people than those who described their parents as having been cold and rejecting. However, those who remembered their parents to have been cold or strict viewed other people as less dependable, while showing lower level of social confidence. Lamborn et al. (1991) also found that parental acceptance and involvement contribute to the development of positive self-perception, self-confidence, and psychological well being. On the other hand, they speculated that high levels of parental strictness and supervision without parental acceptance might be associated with lower levels of self-confidence. Given the findings about the relationship of parenting practices experienced as a child to a person's feeling of comfort in relationships with other people, it seems possible

that early childhood experiences with parents could contribute to one's tendency to seek help in difficult situations.

In addition, several studies have shown that an individual's social relationships with others are influenced by current adult attachment style (Bartholomew & Horowitz, 1991; Collins & Read, 1990; Hazan & Shaver, 1987; Wallace & Vaux, 1993). These studies indicated that securely attached individuals perceived others as more reliable and dependable in their relationship than those with avoidant or ambivalent attachment styles. Moreover, Carnelley, Pietromonaco, and Jaffe (1994) reported that the relationship between childhood experiences with mother and later adult relationship with a romantic partner was mediated by current adult attachment style. Given this evidence, it seems likely that current attachment style might also mediate the association between past experiences with parents and both network orientation and various other characteristics of the social support network.

Considered from the attachment theory view that early experiences with a primary caregiver affect internal working models, which serve as a basis for later relationships, the present study investigated the associations among recollections of parental warmth and control experienced in childhood and characteristics of the social support network. Of particular interest was whether this relationship is mediated by current adult attachment style. The first hypothesis proposed

in this study was that individuals who perceive their mothers or fathers to have been more warm would have more positive network orientations, more perceived availability of social support, and more satisfaction with that support than those who perceive their mothers or fathers to have been less warm. The second hypothesis was that individuals who perceive their mothers or fathers to have been more controlling would have more negative network orientations, less perceived availability of social support, and less satisfaction with that support than those who perceive their mothers or fathers to have been less controlling. The third one was that current adult attachment style would mediate the relation between perceived parental warmth and control and characteristics of the social support network.

Method

Participants

The participants were 139 (72 male and 67 female) undergraduate students from introductory psychology classes at a large northeastern university in US. They earned credit toward a requirement in their classes for participating in this study. They ranged in age from 18 to 25 years old, with a mean age of 19.19 years ($SD=1.32$). Sixty-eight percent of the participants

($n=95$) were Caucasian American, 16% (23) were Asian-American, 7% (9) were Hispanic, 6% (8) were Asian, and 3% were others.

Measures

The measures used in the study were questionnaires regarding demographic variables, childhood experiences of parental warmth and control, current attachment styles, network orientation, and other aspects of the social support network.

Recollections of parental warmth were measured by the 25 items from the warmth and the rejection scales of the Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire (PARQ; Rohner, 1984). The PARQ consists of items like "when I was a child, my father(or mother) used to talk to me about our plans and listen to what I had to say" and "when I was a child, my father (or mother) used to talk to me in a warm and loving way. Each item was rated on a four-point Likert-type scale ranging from "almost always true" to "almost never true". Participants rated each item separately for mother and father, noting how well each item described their childhood relationships with their parents. Rohner (1986) reported internal consistency of the adult PARQ scales as ranging from .86 to .95. In this study, the internal consistency of the 25-item warmth scale, as measured by Cronbach's alpha, was .93 for fathers and .95 for mothers.

Parental control was assessed by five scales, each of which contained 5 items, from the Children's Report of Parent Behavior Inventory (CRPBI; Schludermann & Schludermann, 1970). On the CRPBI, the participants indicated the extent to which each item was "like" or "somewhat like" or "not like" their mothers and fathers when they were children. A sample item is "My father, when I was a child, believed in having a lot of rules and sticking to them". Internal consistency reliabilities for the CRPBI were reported to range from .66 to .84 (Schaefer, 1965). Yalcinkaya (1997) reported alpha coefficients of .89 and .90 for fathers and mothers respectively when she used six subscales of the CRPBI. In this study, Cronbach's alphas for the scale were .91 and .90 for fathers and mothers, respectively.

The participants' current attachment style was assessed with the Attachment Questionnaire (Mikulincer, Florian, & Tolmacz, 1990), which consists of 15 items. This measure was developed by separating into individual items the sentences in the three paragraphs from Hazan and Shaver's attachment measure (1987), wherein each paragraph represented one of the three discrete attachment styles (secure, avoidant, and ambivalent). Although Hazan and Shaver's (1987) and Bartholomew and Horowitz's (1991) single item categorical measure of attachment have been widely used, Bartholomew (1994) raised questions about using a categorical measure to assess adult attachment

style, and several continuous scales for attachment style have been developed (Carnelley, Pietromonaco, & Jaffe, 1994). In this study, Mikulincer et al's multi-item measure was used to assess current attachment style and continuous scores for each attachment style were calculated for each participant.

To complete the measure, participants were asked to consider their close relationships and to rate, using a 5-point scale, the degree to which each statement accurately described them. Mikulincer, Florian, and Tolmacz (1990) found that a principal-component factor analysis with varimax rotation yielded three factors—secure, avoidant, and ambivalent, and Cronbach alphas for each factor ranged from .79 to .83. The internal consistency of each factor in this study ranged from .60 to .80.

The Network Orientation Scale (NOS; Vaux, Burda, & Stewart, 1986) is a 20-item scale measuring an individual's willingness to use his or her social support network in times of need. Participants responded using a four-point agree-disagree format ranging from "strongly agree" to "strongly disagree". High scores on the scale indicate a negative network orientation, which indicates negative attitudes and beliefs about maintaining and utilizing support resources. Using five samples involving students and non-student adults, Vaux, Burda, and Stewart (1986) demonstrated that the NOS had good internal consistency, ranging between .60 and .88, and

good test-retest reliability of .85 and .87 for 1-and 2-week intervals, respectively. They also reported good validity of the NOS with regard to a range of social support measures and personality variables. In this study, internal consistency for the NOS scale was Cronbach's alpha of .83.

Other characteristics of the social support network were assessed using the Social Support Questionnaire (SSQ; Sarason, Levine, Basham, & Sarason, 1983), which includes two scales of 27-items each addressing the perceived availability of social support and satisfaction with that support. Participants responded first by listing the people to whom they could turn for a variety of specific purposes, and second by indicating on a 6-point Likert scale how satisfied they were with these social supports. Sarason et al. (1983) reported high internal consistency of the SSQ, with coefficients of .97 for

number of supporters and .94 for support satisfaction; test-retest reliability was stable over a four-week period (.90 for number of supporters and .83 for support satisfaction). Cronbach's alphas in this study were found to be .97 for the number of supporters, and .96 for support satisfaction.

Results

Table 1 shows means and standard deviations

Table 1. Means and Standard Deviations for the Primary Study Variables

Variables	Mean (SD)
Parenting Style	
Father Warmth	83.24 (12.02)
Father Control	52.41 (9.82)
Mother Warmth	88.00 (10.87)
Mother Control	53.45 (9.33)
Current Attachment Style	
Secure	19.69 (3.11)
Avoidant	11.45 (4.51)
Ambivalent	12.06 (4.46)
Social Support Network	
Network Orientation	41.12 (7.40)
Number of Supporters	121.07 (55.15)
Support Satisfaction	141.70 (17.82)

Note. Total n = 139

of all scores for childhood experiences of warmth and control with mother and father, current attachment style, and various characteristics of the social support network, hereafter labeled as the primary study variables. Table 2 shows Pearson correlations among these variables.

In preliminary analyses, the relationships between demographic and social support network variables were examined. Demographic variables that were significantly related to individuals' network orientation and the perceived amounts of social support were nationality and childhood country. Specifically, participants who had US citizenship and grew up in US had significantly more positive network orientation and more supporters

Table 2. Pearson correlations among the Primary Study Variables

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1. Fw										
2. Fctr	-.30***									
3. Mw	.38***	-.08								
4. Mctr	-.03	.44***	-.27**							
5. Sec	.41***	-.03	.36***	.02						
6. Amb	-.14	.07	-.17*	.10	-.27**					
7. Avo	-.37***	.04	-.22*	-.06	-.65***	.30***				
8. Nos	-.29**	.04	-.14	.03	-.54***	.18*	.48***			
9. Ssqn	.35***	-.02	.41***	-.13	.50***	-.20*	-.30***	-.42***		
10. Ssq	.22**	.05	.39***	.02	.56***	-.32***	-.34***	-.30**	.46***	

*p < .05 **p < .01 ***p < .001

Note. Fw (Mw) =Father or Mother Warmth. Fctr (Mctr) = Father or Mother Control.

Sec, Amb, and Avo = Secure, Ambivalent, and Avoidant attachment style.

Nos = Network Orientation. Ssqn= The number of supporters.

Ssq = Support Satisfaction.

in their social support networks than their non-US counterparts($F = 6.91, p < .01$, and $F = 4.53, p < .05$ for network orientation; $F = 6.60, p < .05$, and $F = 6.31, p < .05$ for number of supporters, respectively). Also, older participants showed more negative network orientations($r = .20, p < .05$) and individuals who had any religion perceived themselves to have significantly more supports than individuals who had no religious background($F = 4.66, p < .01$). Thus, any demographic variables that were significantly related to the social support network variables, such as age, nationality, childhood country and religion were controlled in subsequent analyses.

Relationships between Parenting Style and Social Support Network

A series of multiple regressions were performed to examine the associations of parenting style to social support network variables. Demographic variables were entered in the model first, followed by the parenting style variables. Table 3 shows the results of the regression, including the standardized Beta weights, the variance accounted for at each step, and the F-values for the R² change. The results showed that after controlling for demographic variables, only father warmth significantly predicted an individual's network orientation($Beta = -.28, p < .01$); specifically, the

Table 3. Relationships between Parenting Style and Social Support Network Variables after Controlling for Demographic Variables

	Step1: Beta	Step2: Beta	R ² Change	F of Change
1. Network Orientation				
Demographic Variables			.08	3.69*
Father Warmth	--	-.28**		
Father Control	--	-.04		
Mother Warmth	--	.02		
Mother Control	--	.04	.07	2.55*
2. Number of Supporters				
Demographic Variables			.16	8.07***
Father Warmth	--	.25**		
Father Control	--	.06		
Mother Warmth	--	.23**		
Mother Control	--	-.09	.15	6.74***
3. Support Satisfaction				
Father Warmth	.13			
Father Control	.08			
Mother Warmth	.36***			
Mother Control	.08		.18	6.91***

*p < .05 **p < .01 ***p < .001

Note. Dashes indicate that the variable was not in the model at that step of the multiple regression

warmer individuals recalled their fathers as having been, the more positive the network orientations they reported. The recollections of both father and mother warmth were significantly and positively associated with perceived number of supporters (Beta = .25, p < .01, and Beta =

.23, p < .01, respectively).

As no demographic variables were associated with support satisfaction, parenting style variables were entered into the regression at step1. The results indicated that only recollections of mother warmth were significantly and positively related

to individuals' satisfaction with their perceived social support(Beta = .36, $p < .000$). There were no significant relationships between perceived father or mother control and any aspects of the social support network.

Mediating Effects of Adult Attachment Style

As attachment style variables were related to

father and mother warmth and also significantly associated with social support network variables (refer to table 2), the mediating effect of attachment was examined. To test the mediating effect of attachment, a series of hierarchical multiple regression analyses were conducted in which each of the social support network variables was regressed onto childhood experiences with mother and father and current attachment

Table 4. Hierarchical Multiple Regressions predicting Social Support Network Variables

	Step2: Beta	Step3: Beta	R ² Change	F of Change
1. Network Orientation				
(Control Variables)				
Father Warmth	-.27**	-.07		
Mother Warmth	.01	.12	.07	5.33**
Secure	--	-.41***		
Avoidant	--	.18		
Ambivalent	--	.01	.23	15.61***
2. Number of Supporters				
(Control Variables)				
Father Warmth	.24**	.14		
Mother Warmth	.24**	.16	.15	13.50***
Secure	--	.37***		
Avoidant	--	.05		
Ambivalent	--	-.06	.10	6.83***
3. Support Satisfaction				
Father Warmth	.10	-.05		
Mother Warmth	.35***	.22**	.16	12.27***
Secure	--	.50***		
Avoidant	--	.07		
Ambivalent	--	-.19**	.24	16.60***

* $p < .05$ ** $p < .01$ *** $p < .001$

Note. Dashes indicate that the variable was not in the model at that step of the multiple regression

style. Demographic variables were entered first in the regression model to control for any contribution they were making to social support network. Perceived father and mother warmth variables were entered into the regressions at step 2, and the current adult attachment variables at step 3. The father and mother control variables were not included in the regression model, because they were not associated with any of the attachment style or social support network variables. A mediation effect would exist if the effect of the independent variable (father or mother warmth) became nonsignificant or smaller after controlling for the mediator (current attachment style).

Separate regressions were performed for each of the three social support network variables (i.e., network orientation, number of supporters, and support satisfaction). Table 4 shows the results of the regressions. Perceived father or mother warmth significantly predicted an individual's social support network variables at step 2. When the current attachment variables were entered into the regression model at step 3, attachment style was related to social support network variables on all of the measures, even after taking into account perceived father and mother warmth. Specifically, individuals who scored high on secure attachment style reported more positive network orientations, a larger number of supporters, and more satisfaction with those supports. Ambivalent attachment style significantly predicted

only satisfaction with perceived support in the social network, indicating that people with high scores on the ambivalent style were less satisfied with their supports.

The hypothesis that current adult attachment style would mediate the relation between perceived parenting style and characteristics of the social support network was supported. The magnitude of the standardized coefficients, Beta, for mother and father warmth decreased when current attachment style scores were included in the regression model for support satisfaction, and became nonsignificant for network orientation and perceived number of supporters. These decreases in Beta size from step 2 to step 3 for network orientation and number of supporters, and from step 1 to step 2 for support satisfaction suggest that an individual's current attachment style mediates the association between perceived parental warmth and social support network. Thus, the influence of recollections of parental warmth was associated indirectly with an individual's network orientation and perceived number of supporters through current secure attachment style, and with support satisfaction through current secure and ambivalent attachment style.

Discussion

This study examined an individual's social support network in relation to recollections of

parental warmth and control, and explored the role of current attachment style in this relationship. The results showed that recollections of father or mother warmth were significantly associated with positive characteristics of an individual's social support network, and current secure attachment style mediated the relation between perceived parental warmth and characteristics of the social support network.

The findings regarding the relationship between parental warmth and later positive characteristics of the social support network may be explained through an integration of findings from several previous studies. On the basis of adolescents' ratings of their parents on the two dimensions of acceptance/involvement and strictness/supervision, Lamborn, Mounts, Steinberg, and Dornbusch (1991) suggested that parental acceptance and warmth contribute to the development of an individual's positive self-perception and self-confidence. Sarason et al.(1991) found that perceived amount of support and subjective appraisal of that support were significantly correlated with a positive self-view, and positive or negative self-perceptions were also related to beliefs about how others evaluate oneself. In addition, Belle, Dill, and Burr(1991) reported that higher self-esteem was significantly associated with a more positive network orientation. Thus, positive self-perceptions that result from childhood experiences with father and mother warmth might influence individuals' willingness to seek help from others, and their

confidence and beliefs that others in their social networks will help them when they confront difficult situations. Also, this positive self-view might contribute to a larger perceived social network and positive appraisals of help from others in the social network.

An interesting finding from this study is that only father warmth was associated with social network orientation. Thus, an individual's tendency to seek help from others appeared to be influenced by childhood relationships with father rather than with mother. This finding suggests the importance of father's role in the development of beliefs and attitudes about the usefulness of help-seeking behaviors. Traditionally, women are more involved in childcare, which is the reason that early research on children's development emphasized the role of the mother. Previous research on female development has long focused on the mother's role and only more recently on the father's; moreover, attachment theorists have generally assumed continuity from early attachment style with a maternal care-giver, not with a father, to later working models of self and others. In addition, Baumrind(1991) suggested that mothers were more influential than fathers in affecting adolescents' behaviors. However, the results of this study suggest that examining the mother's role in isolation is not enough to understand the development of later social network and social functioning; fathers appear to play an important role in this process. Further

study is needed to explore how early relationships with fathers influence the tendency to trust others and to use social support resources more willingly.

As indicated in the correlational analyses, secure attachment style was significantly related to recollections of childhood experiences with both mother and father warmth. This relationship between perceived mother and father warmth and secure attachment style is in accordance with previous findings (Carnelley et al., 1994; Collins & Read, 1990). Moreover, as predicted, the results from this study showed that adult attachment style mediates the relationship between perceived parenting style and characteristics of the social support network. That is, the contribution of perceived parenting style to the social support network was mediated by the positive association of parental warmth with current attachment style. Thus, although individuals' recollections of father and mother warmth predicted their later social support networks, the influence of parental warmth was associated indirectly with several aspects of the social support network through current secure attachment style.

In addition to evidence on the mediating role of secure attachment, there were also important findings on the insecure attachment styles. For example, the ambivalent attachment style also mediated the relation between parental warmth and subjective appraisals of perceived social support. The ambivalent attachment style, which

is characterized by anxiety about being abandoned or unloved by other people, was negatively associated in this study with mother warmth and marginally with father warmth. Thus, parental warmth appeared to be associated indirectly with high support satisfaction through its negative association with ambivalent attachment, as well as through its positive association with secure attachment.

The finding regarding the mediating effect of adult attachment style has some similarities to Carnelley et al.'s finding (1994) that adult attachment style predicted later relationships with a romantic partner better than did positive childhood experiences with mother, in such areas as satisfaction with relationship, quality of interactions with partner, and constructive style of conflict resolution. As Carnelley et al. speculated, these findings might be explained by the fact that adult attachment style incorporates later experiences with other people and with important figures in one's life, as well as early childhood experiences with parents, and thus becomes more influential in determining later relationship functioning and characteristics of the social support network. This speculation is also supported by Bowlby's idea (1973) that a person's working models, which are influenced by the primary caretakers in childhood, are changed by new experiences with people throughout life.

When an individual confronts stressful and problematic situations or needs help, the extent

to which that person has positive attitudes about help-seeking and perceives that support is available might be important for predicting whether he or she turns to other people to ask for help. This study suggested that early childhood experiences with parental warmth were associated with later positive help-seeking beliefs and perceptions of the social support network. However, because of the cross-sectional design, it is not possible to say that parenting styles caused later willingness to use and perceptions of social support in the social network; similarly, changes in network orientation over the years could not be determined directly. A well-designed longitudinal study is needed to understand these processes more thoroughly. In addition, based on several previous research on the different meaning of parenting style in different cultures (Chao, 1994; Rohner & Pattengill, 1985), cross-cultural research would be an important area for future research to explore whether experiences of parental warmth and control in childhood differently influence later beliefs and perceptions about the social support network in different societies.

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부모의 자녀양육방식에 대한 회상, 현재의 애착유형 및 사회적 지지 망에 대한 지각간의 관계

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본 연구는 대학생들의 부모자녀양육방식에 있어서의 온정성 및 통제성에 대한 회상과 사회적 지지 망의 여러 가지 특성들에 대한 지각간의 관계를 조사하였으며, 또한 이러한 관계가 개인의 현재 애착유형에 의해 중재되어지는가를 살펴보았다. Boston University에 재학중인 139명의 미국대 학생들이 부모의 온정성과 통제성, 현재의 애착유형, 그리고 사회적 지지 망의 다양한 특성들에 관한 질문에 응답하였다. 연구결과, 아버지를 온정적이고 따뜻하였다고 회상할수록 좀 더 긍정적인 네트워크 오리엔테이션을 보였으며, 회상된 아버지와 어머니의 온정성은 지각된 사회적 지지의 양과, 그리고 회상된 어머니의 온정성은 지각된 사회적 지지에 대한 주관적인 만족감과 긍정적으로 관련되어 있는 것으로 나타났다. 현재의 안정적인 애착유형은 대학생들의 회상된 아버지와 어머니의 온정성과 유의미하게 상관되어 있었으며, 이는 지각된 부모 온정성과 사회적 지지 망의 여러 특성들 간의 관계를 중재하였다. 끝으로 본 연구결과들이 갖는 시사점 및 함축된 의미에 관한 논의가 있었다.

주요어 : 네트워크 오리엔테이션, 사회적 지지 망, 애착유형, 부모자녀양육방식