

# UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI BERGAMO

Dipartimento di Scienze Umane e Sociali

Corso di Laurea Magistrale in Clinical Psychology for Individuals, Families, and Organizations

Classe n. 2023 - Descrizione Classe

## **Relationship between Parental Acceptance/Rejection and Intimate Partner Violence Attitude: Resilience as a Mediator Factor**

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ANNO ACCADEMICO 2022/ 2023



## Acknowledgements

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all those who have supported and guided me throughout my journey in completing this master's thesis.

First and foremost, I am deeply grateful to my thesis advisor, Andrea Scalabrini, and my thesis co-advisor, Clara Mucci for their unwavering support, invaluable guidance, and insightful feedback. Their expertise, patience, and dedication have been instrumental in shaping this research project and enriching my academic growth.

I extend my sincere appreciation to the faculty members of Clinical Psychology for Individuals, Families, and Organizations at University of Bergamo for their knowledge, expertise, and encouragement. Their commitment to education and scholarly pursuits has been a constant source of inspiration.

I am indebted to my family, especially my mother and sister, for their unconditional love, encouragement, and belief in my abilities. Their unwavering support and understanding have been my pillars of strength throughout this challenging academic endeavor.

I would like to express my gratitude to my friends Efza and Ilayda, my boyfriend Ismail and colleagues who provided support, encouragement, and valuable discussions. Their perspectives and insights have contributed immensely to the development of this thesis.

I am grateful to the participants who generously dedicated their time and shared their experiences, making this research possible. Their contributions are greatly appreciated.

Lastly, I would like to acknowledge the countless individuals who have made significant contributions to my academic journey, even if not directly mentioned in this section. Their support, whether big or small, has shaped my growth as a scholar and person.

Completing this master's thesis would not have been possible without the collective support and encouragement of all these individuals. I am truly grateful for their contributions, and I humbly dedicate this work to them.

Thank you.

Bilgi Inan



## **Compliance with Scientific Ethics**

I affirm that all the information contained in this document has been gathered and presented in accordance with academic regulations and ethical principles. Furthermore, I confirm that, in adherence to these regulations and ethical standards, I have appropriately cited and referenced all external sources and findings that are not original to this work.

Name: Bilgi Inan





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**Abstract:** This study examines the association between parental acceptance/rejection and attitudes toward intimate partner violence (IPV) among adults, while also considering the role of resilience. The research aims to fill the gap in existing literature regarding the link between parental acceptance/rejection and IPV attitudes. The sample consists of 110 Turkish men(n=43) and women(n=67) over the age of 18 who completed an online survey. Various statistical analyses, including t-tests, Mann Whitney U tests, Kruskal Wallis tests, Pearson and Spearman correlation tests, and mediation analyses using the IBM SPSS Process Macro 4.1, were conducted. The findings indicate a significant gender difference in attitudes toward IPV, with men exhibiting higher scores than women. Positive correlations were observed between the Mother Acceptance-Rejection Scale, Father Acceptance-Rejection Scale, and the Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale. The separation of parents during childhood was associated with higher scores on the Father Acceptance-Rejection Scale. However, psychological resilience did not mediate the relationship between parental acceptance/rejection and IPV attitudes. Previous research has highlighted the positive correlation between patriarchal beliefs and women's acceptance of IPV, suggesting a potential avenue for further investigation on the mediating role of resilience in less patriarchal cultures.

**Keywords:** violence, parental rejection, resilience, acceptance, childhood, intimate partner



## **Chapter1: Introduction and Literature Review**

### **Violence**

There is an actual quote from Nelson Mandela in the foreword of the 'World Report on Violence and Health'; "The twentieth century will be remembered as a century marked by violence. It burdens us with its legacy of mass destruction, of violence inflicted on a scale never seen and never possible before in human history" (Krug et al., 2002). In today's world, violence is increasingly observed in various forms, such as through media exposure on television, the internet, and even in public spaces, leading to its unfortunate normalization, particularly in relation to women in many cultures.

Instances of violence against women are increasingly reported in news sources, underscoring the pervasiveness of the issue within society. For instance, an article titled "Murder in Turkey sparks outrage over rising violence against women" (Guardian News and Media, 2020) highlights the case of a young woman who was killed by her ex-boyfriend in Turkey, resulting in calls for action by women's groups to address the problem of intimate partner violence in the country. Another article titled "Thousands rally in Turkey to demand an end to violence against women" (Al Jazeera, 2020) sheds light on a violent attack during a women's march in Istanbul by a group of men, drawing attention to the ongoing issue of violence against women in Turkey.

According to the We Will Stop Femicides Platform (n.d.), an organization monitoring violence against women, the alarming number of 474 women were murdered in Turkey last year, with the majority of cases involving current or former partners, family members, or unrelated men seeking a relationship with them. The article "Domestic Violence in Turkey during the Pandemic" (Ünker & Bellut, 2020) examines the surge in domestic violence against women in Turkey amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, while highlighting the challenges victims face when seeking help.

In another incident, the article "Woman attacked in a bus in Turkey for wearing shorts during Ramadan" (Hobson, 2017) reports on a violent assault on a woman in Turkey, allegedly motivated by her choice to wear shorts during the Islamic holy month of

Ramadan. These examples collectively illustrate the prevalence of violence against women in Turkey and the urgent need for action.

Additional news coverage includes "International Women's Day: Istanbul women defy ban on protests" (McGarvey, 2023), which reports on large-scale protests in Turkey in 2023 in response to the high levels of violence against women in the country. Furthermore, the article "Turkey's Hidden Domestic Abuse: A Survivor's Story" (Erdim & Lace-Evans, 2020) features interviews with Turkish women who have experienced domestic abuse, as well as activists and experts striving to raise awareness and advocate for change. Notably, a survivor of abuse bravely voices her determination, stating, "I do not want to die in the hands of my abuser" (Erdim & Lace-Evans, 2020).

The significance of these examples lies in their portrayal of the persistent problem of violence, including intimate partner violence, and specifically violence against women in Turkey. They also highlight the dedicated efforts of activists and advocates who aim to draw attention to these issues, calling for urgent measures to address and combat them effectively.

Instances of violence have become increasingly visible in society, as witnessed by people through televised acts of torture and violence on the streets. The graphic nature of these events often leaves observers in disbelief. Furthermore, the exposure to violence extends to vulnerable populations, including older individuals subjected to mistreatment in nursing homes, cases of rape occurring within girls' dormitories, physical abuse endured by orphans in state institutions, and the tragic murder of married women with children by their spouses. In some instances, ex-boyfriends resort to killing university students due to their refusal to reconcile relationships.

The perpetration of such acts against vulnerable individuals, including young children, older adults, and young students, raises profound questions regarding the emotional impact they experience. However, these questions often elicit discomfort and reluctance to confront the reality of their suffering. The aspects of violence and helplessness associated with such situations are often disregarded or overlooked by many. It is crucial to move beyond mere statements and take substantive actions to address these pressing issues. It is imperative to acknowledge that those affected by violence could be

individuals within our own social circles, such as acquaintances in nurseries, hospitals, or nursing homes. As a collective responsibility, it becomes crucial to prevent such atrocities from occurring. A fundamental starting point is to foster a comprehensive understanding of the multifaceted nature of violence. Understanding the essence and implications of violence serves as a foundational step in addressing this complex issue. Understanding the processes that underlie aggressive behaviors by analyzing the complex interplay between early experiences and unresolved conflicts and sociocultural factors, such research sheds light on the psychological origins of violence and provides insights into the potential for healing and transformative interventions. There are many ways to conceptualize what constitutes violence, but there is currently no agreement on the most suitable. *Violence* is a term that describes a range of harmful behaviors that can cause physical, emotional, or psychological harm to individuals or groups. According to the World Health Organization, violence is "the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community, that either result in or has a high risk of resulting in harm or death" (As cited in Varshney et al., 2015).

The WHO Report identifies three main types of violence: self-directed, interpersonal, and collective. Within these three types of violence, the WHO identifies several subtypes, including (As cited in Krug EG et al, 2002):

Self-directed violence:

- Suicide
- Self-harm

Interpersonal violence:

- Family and intimate partner violence
- Community Violence

Collective violence:

- Social Violence
- Political Violence
- Economical Violence

The nature of violent acts:

- Physical Violence
- Sexual Violence

— Psychological Violence

— Involving deprivation or neglect.

It is worth noting that the WHO recognizes that these types of violence can often overlap and intersect. For example, physical violence can also involve psychological or emotional abuse, and terrorism can involve both collective and interpersonal violence.

There are also nine types of violence with their brief explanations according to the Newfoundland Labrador Office for Status of Women Violence Prevention Initiative (2014):

1. Physical Violence;

Physical violence happens when someone attempts to control another person's behavior using a body part or an object.

2. Sexual Violence

When someone is coerced into engaging in sexual behavior, sexual violence happens.

3. Emotional Violence

Emotional violence occurs when someone says or does something to make another person feel foolish or inferior.

4. Psychological Violence

It is known as psychological violence when someone threatens another person or makes them fearful to acquire control.

5. Spiritual Violence

When someone manipulates, dominates, or controls another person based on that person's spiritual values, that is referred to as spiritual (or religious) violence.

6. Cultural Violence

When a person is wounded due to customs from their culture, religion, or tradition, this is referred to as cultural violence, such as racism, sexism, or homophobia.

7. Verbal Abuse

When someone intentionally hurts another person with spoken or written language, this is known as verbal abuse.

8. Financial Abuse

Financial abuse occurs when someone misuses or takes control of a person's financial resources without the person's consent.

9. Neglect

Neglect happens when someone who should be caring for or helping someone else neglects to do so.

### **Impact of Violence:**

The impact of violence is a widely researched topic in various fields, such as psychology, criminology, and public health. Many studies have explored the impact of violence on individuals and communities, and there is a large body of literature.

Violence can have severe and long-lasting impacts on individuals and communities, including physical injury, emotional trauma, and loss of life. The effects of violence can also extend beyond the individual, impacting families, communities, and society. Exposure to violence can increase the risk of mental health problems, such as depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) (WHO, 2004). Additionally, violence can lead to social and economic costs, such as increased healthcare expenses and decreased productivity (WHO, 2018).

Violence can have a significant impact on individuals, families, and communities. Here are a few examples of the impact of violence more specifically:

**Physical harm:** The most immediate impact of violence is often physical harm to the victim. Depending on the severity of the violence, victims may experience a range of injuries, from bruises and cuts to broken bones, internal injuries, and even death.

**Emotional trauma:** Violence can also profoundly impact victims' emotional well-being. Victims may experience fear, anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) due to the violence. These emotional scars can last long after the physical wounds have healed.

**Disruption of social relationships:** Violence can also disrupt victims' social relationships and their ability to participate in social activities and engage in meaningful relationships. Victims may become isolated from friends and family members or experience stigma and discrimination due to their victimization.

**Economic consequences:** Violence can also have economic consequences, both for victims and for society as a whole. Victims may incur medical expenses, lose wages due to missed work, or experience a long-term disability that affects their ability to work and earn a living. Societies may also bear the cost of responding to and preventing violence through law enforcement, healthcare, and other social services.

Inter-generational impact: Violence can also have an intergenerational impact. Children who witness or experience violence may be more likely to exhibit behavioral and emotional problems, engage in violent behavior, or become victims of violence in the future. These are just a few examples of the impact of violence. It is a complex and multifaceted issue that can have far-reaching consequences for individuals, families, and society.

### **Prevention of Violence:**

Preventing violence involves addressing the underlying factors contributing to violence, such as poverty, inequality, and social exclusion. Interventions can include community-based programs, education, awareness campaigns, and policies that promote social and economic justice (WHO, 2004). Addressing individual risk factors like substance abuse can also help prevent violence.

There are many approaches to preventing violence, and different strategies may be more effective in different contexts. Here are a few examples of prevention strategies:

Education and awareness-raising: Education and awareness-raising campaigns can help to promote understanding of the causes and consequences of violence and to build empathy and support for victims. These campaigns can target different audiences, such as children, parents, educators, or community leaders.

Strengthening social networks and support systems: Strong social networks can provide individuals with the resources and support they need to cope with stressful situations and avoid or leave violent relationships. It can include providing access to social services such as counseling, legal support, and emergency shelters.

Community mobilization: Community mobilization involves engaging a wide range of community members to prevent violence. It can include organizing community events and activities, building partnerships with local organizations and institutions, and empowering community members to take action to prevent violence.

Changing social norms and cultural attitudes: Social norms and cultural attitudes that condone or excuse violence can contribute to its prevalence. Efforts to shift these norms and attitudes can include media campaigns, advocacy, and engaging influential community members such as religious leaders, sports figures, or celebrities.

Addressing underlying social and economic factors: Violence can be a symptom of more profound social and economic inequalities, such as poverty, unemployment, and discrimination. Addressing these underlying factors through policies and programs that promote economic opportunities, access to education and healthcare, and social inclusion can help to prevent violence.

These are some examples of prevention strategies. It is important to note that effective prevention strategies often require a comprehensive and coordinated approach that involves multiple sectors and stakeholders. Violence is a significant issue that affects individuals and communities around the world. Understanding the types of violence, their impact, and prevention strategies are critical to reducing the harm caused by violence and creating safer, healthier communities.

### **Intimate partner violence**

Intimate partner violence (IPV) stands out as a disconcerting reality, particularly due to its prevalence within the context of our closest relationships. This form of violence encompasses various manifestations, including physical, sexual, emotional abuse, as well as controlling behaviors. It transcends socioeconomic, religious, and cultural boundaries, affecting individuals worldwide. It is noteworthy that women disproportionately bear the brunt of IPV on a global scale. Recognizing the gravity of intimate partner violence, Europe acknowledged it as a significant social issue in the 1970s (Dziewa & Glowacz, 2021).

The recognition of intimate partner violence as a public health concern transformed it from a purely personal matter affecting individual couples to a broader societal problem (Miller & McCaw, 2019). Despite the implementation of numerous interventions in response to this issue, intimate partner violence continues to pose significant challenges in the 21st century, persistently evolving and spreading.

Enumerating the various forms of abusive behaviors, physical assaults encompass acts such as punching, kicking, slapping, and battering. Sexual violence encompasses coerced sex and various forms of sexual coercion. Psychological or emotional abuse encompasses insults, belittlement, sustained humiliation, intimidation (including property destruction), threats of harm, and attempts to sever familial ties or restrict access to financial resources,

employment, education, and healthcare (Moreno et al., n.d.). When such abuse becomes repetitive within a relationship, it is commonly referred to as "battering" (Krug et al., 2002).

Irrespective of the specific form, frequency, or severity of violence, it invariably inflicts physical and emotional suffering (Band-Winterstein & Eisikovits, 2014). The emotional sequelae closely mirror symptoms associated with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and are frequently observed among victims of domestic abuse (Zlotnick et al., 2006).

Increasing variances of intimate partner violence rates and their levels of severity concern humanity at the global level. Some statistics below show the importance of this issue;

- About 20 people are physically abused by an intimate partner every minute on average in the US. It translates to more than 10 million women and men in a single year.
- Severe intimate partner physical violence, sexual violence, or intimate partner stalking affects 1 in 4 women and 1 in 9 men. It can result in harm, fear, post-traumatic stress disorder, victim services use, contraction of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), et al.
- An intimate relationship has harmed 1 in 7 women and 1 in 25 men.
- In the United States, 1 in 5 women and 1 in 71 males have experienced rape. Among them, 45.4% of the female and 29% of the male rape victims had an intimate partner who committed the crime (*NCADV: National Coalition Against Domestic Violence*).

The Nation's Leading Grassroots Voice on Domestic Violence, n.d.).

The new generation's responsibility is to prevent it from becoming standard by researching the reasons behind this violence, factors that reduce it, and how to prevent it.

### **Intimate Partner Violence Attitude**

Intimate partner violence attitude refers to an individual's beliefs, attitudes, and values regarding violence or aggression within intimate relationships. These attitudes can range from accepting or justifying violent behavior to condemning and rejecting violence in relationships (Flood & Pease, 2009).

Intimate partner violence attitudes can be influenced by various factors, including cultural and social norms, personal experiences, and exposure to media and other forms

of information (Capaldi, Knoble, Shortt & Kim, 2012). Research has shown that individuals who hold more accepting attitudes towards intimate partner violence are more likely to perpetrate such violence themselves or to fail to intervene or seek help if they witness it was happening to others (Neville, Oh, Spanierman, Heppner & Clark, 2004).

Intimate partner violence attitudes can be assessed using various measures, such as surveys or interviews that ask about beliefs and attitudes toward intimate partner violence. Understanding these attitudes is essential for developing effective prevention and intervention strategies to address intimate partner violence. By addressing the underlying attitudes that may contribute to intimate partner violence, it may be possible to reduce its prevalence and impact on individuals and communities.

### **Origins of Intimate Partner Violence**

The distinction between humans and animals lies in their capacity for choice, which is attributed to their possession of free will. However, it remains puzzling why individuals, particularly those who hold deep affection for their loved ones, choose to engage in violent behavior. Relationships, in one sense, appear to be intertwined with the potential for violence. The presence of another person introduces a range of possibilities. Will the presence of the other result in harm, destruction, domination, or subjugation? Or will the other foster an environment that allows individuals to express their true selves and facilitate personal growth, development, and flourishing? This question has been a subject of concern for philosophers such as Plato and Levinas (ACHTENBERG, 2017).

The origins of violence encompass a variety of factors, including individual, social, and cultural elements. Numerous research articles have explored diverse explanations for violence. For instance, Fazel and Grann (2006) investigate the relationship between severe mental illness and violent crime, revealing that individuals with severe mental illness are more likely to be victims rather than perpetrators of violence. However, the study highlights that co-occurring substance abuse and personality disorders may increase the risk of engaging in violent behavior.

McCloskey, Williams, and Larsen (2005) examine the correlation between gender inequality and intimate partner violence in Tanzania. The study finds that women who experience violence tend to have lower levels of education and income. Moreover,

cultural norms that endorse male dominance contribute to the prevalence of violence against women.

These examples illustrate the range of research articles that delve into violence and its underlying causes. Countless additional studies and articles offer further exploration of this intricate phenomenon.

The family environment plays a pivotal role in shaping individuals as they learn a multitude of behaviors from their parents. The quality of family relationships is crucial, as it can significantly impact individuals' perceptions of love. Factors such as a lack of family support and harsh disciplinary practices at home have been linked to an increased risk of bullying behavior in school (Ncube, 2013). Conversely, children, particularly those with close bonds to their parents, especially their mothers, are less likely to experience various forms of violence (ZimStat, UNICEF & CCORE, 2013). The Bobo Doll Experiment serves as an example where children exposed to aggressive models displayed a higher frequency of imitating aggressive behavior compared to those in non-aggressive or control groups (Mcleod, 1970).

Another noteworthy finding emerges in the context of intimate partner violence (IPV), suggesting that individuals exposed to violence during childhood are more likely to become victims or perpetrators of adolescent dating violence (ADV) as they navigate romantic relationships in their teenage years (Evans et al., 2021). Witnessing family violence, in general, may serve as a significant contributing factor to violence against intimate partners.

According to Bach-y-Rita (1974), the combination of withdrawal, expressive reactions, heightened reactivity, a tendency to seek stimulation, difficulties in perceiving and processing information in the brain, and displays of violent aggression towards oneself or others could potentially result from being raised in an environment characterized by maternal social deprivation.

Additionally, various other factors may contribute to violence against both women and men.

According to (WHO, 2021), Risk factors for both intimate partner violence include:

- lower levels of education (perpetration and experience);
- a history of exposure to child maltreatment (perpetration and experience);
- antisocial personality disorder (perpetration);
- harmful use of alcohol (perpetration and experience);
- harmful masculine behaviors, including having multiple partners or attitudes that condone violence (perpetration);
- community norms that privilege or ascribe higher status to men and lower status to women;
- low levels of women's access to paid employment; and,
- low level of gender equality.

Intimate partner violence can be attributed to a range of underlying factors. These factors may include experiences of previous victimization, the presence of mental illness leading to the perception of violence as a viable solution, a childhood environment characterized by fear and intimidation, a reliance on fear or terror as a means of resolving conflicts, limited access to education and knowledge, the influence of primal impulses on behavior, underdeveloped mechanisms of conscience, unmet basic physiological and psychological needs, feelings of desperation and entrapment, and resulting aggression.

Violence tends to emerge in contexts where fundamental human needs, education, and mental well-being are marginalized or disregarded. This violence may manifest in various forms, including violence against women, men, children, animals, and even the natural environment. Individuals who are consistently exposed to violence may internalize these patterns, shaping their worldview and subsequently perpetuating violence. Despite potential recognition that their understanding of love is flawed, the capacity for change is hindered by the challenge of breaking lifelong patterns. Transformative change requires both self-awareness and a genuine willingness to embrace alternative perspectives and behaviors.

It is crucial to recognize that altering deeply ingrained behavioral patterns is a complex endeavor that demands a profound commitment to personal growth and transformation.

## **Parenting**

As mentioned by (Butt et al., 2022), parenting is culturally constructed and guided by parental ethnotheories – culturally derived beliefs and values regarding children, the family, and parenthood (Super & Harkness, 1986; Harkness & Super, 2020).

Parenting presents both immense challenges and profound joys, making it a highly complex and fulfilling journey. The importance of good parenting is very high. It provides nurturing, healthy child development. How parents interact with their children can profoundly impact their physical, emotional, and psychological well-being throughout their lives. Good parenting is essential for children to develop a strong sense of self, healthy relationships, and resilience to life's challenges.

Attachment theory, pioneered by John Bowlby and expanded by Mary Ainsworth, provides a framework for understanding the importance of good parenting. Attachment refers to the emotional bond that develops between a child and their primary caregiver, usually their mother or father. The quality of this attachment can influence how children feel about themselves, how they relate to others, and how they cope with stress and adversity. Research shows that children with secure attachments with their parents tend to have better emotional regulation, social skills, and academic performance than children with insecure attachments or no attachments (Bowlby, 1988). Securely attached children are more likely to seek out social support when needed and be confident in their ability to manage stressful situations (Bowlby, 1988).

Good Parenting involves providing children with love, warmth, and support while also setting clear boundaries and expectations for behavior. Parents who are responsive to their children's needs and provide consistent discipline are likelier to have children who feel secure and confident. Positive parenting practices, such as praise, positive reinforcement, and active listening, can foster healthy communication and relationship-building between parents and children (Mikulincer & Shaver, 2007).

Conversely, harmful parenting practices, such as criticism, neglect, and physical punishment, can harm children's development. Children who experience harsh parenting are more likely to develop behavioral problems, depression, and anxiety (Sanders, Mazzucchelli & Studman, 2004). Additionally, children who witness domestic violence or other forms of family conflict are at higher risk for developing trauma-related disorders and other mental health issues (Gershoff, 2002).

Parenting can also shape children's beliefs and attitudes about themselves and the world around them. Parents encouraging their children to explore their interests, take risks, and develop a growth mindset can help them build self-esteem and resilience. On the other hand, parents who are overly critical or push their children too hard may contribute to a sense of perfectionism or anxiety about failure (Margolin & Gordis, 2000).

Effective parenting plays a crucial role in fostering optimal child development. By offering love, support, and consistent discipline, parents can facilitate the formation of secure attachments, healthy relationships, and resilience in their children. Positive parenting practices encompass nurturing communication, promoting self-esteem, and fostering healthy emotional and psychological well-being. Conversely, detrimental parenting practices can have adverse effects on children's overall well-being. Prioritizing the practice of good parenting enables children to realize their full potential and lead fulfilling lives.

One of the remarkable discoveries in epigenetics is that an organism's physiological and psychological functions are shaped by environmental factors, starting from conception and potentially even influenced by the experiences of previous generations. This highlights the significance of effective parenting and aligns with Bowlby's recommendations for the wellbeing and future of humanity, emphasizing the importance of providing favorable parental conditions and support in raising children (MUCCI, 2019).

It is noteworthy to emphasize the importance of a loving and harmonious marital relationship between parents. As Howard W. Hunter stated, a father's love for his children is best demonstrated through his love and respect for their mother. Consequently, it is essential for parents to avoid engaging in conflicts in the presence of their children. Parents should exhibit an unwavering concern for their children's well-being, nurturing their self-confidence while employing language that is non-critical and non-hurtful. Encouraging children to persevere through challenges, providing support when needed, and instilling self-reliance are invaluable aspects of parenting. Moreover, parents should prepare their children for the realities of the external world by offering measured doses of guidance and support, while allowing them to experience failure and success. It is crucial to note that resorting to extreme measures such as physical punishment is strongly

discouraged, as such methods have a diminishing impact over time. Effective communication and setting clear behavioral expectations can significantly contribute to children's positive behavior. Parents should prioritize their children's needs throughout their lives, assuming a self-sacrificing, understanding, and tolerant parental role, ensuring the provision of basic necessities such as food, shelter, and healthcare. Striving to create a secure and comfortable environment for their children necessitates diligent efforts, including working diligently to meet financial requirements. These efforts enable parents to readily access medical care, ensure quality education, and establish social connections for their children. It is imperative to focus on raising children as individuals with character, rather than treating them as mere instruments of achievement. Providing guidance while granting children the autonomy to make their own decisions fosters their personal growth and development.

Being a proficient parent entails an ongoing journey of learning, adapting, and tailoring approaches to suit the unique needs of each child. Parenting does not come with a definitive guidebook, as effective strategies may vary based on individual circumstances. Despite the prevalent notion in society that parenting should require licensing, it is crucial to acknowledge that the nuances of effective parenting transcend a standardized set of rules or criteria.

### **PARTheory**

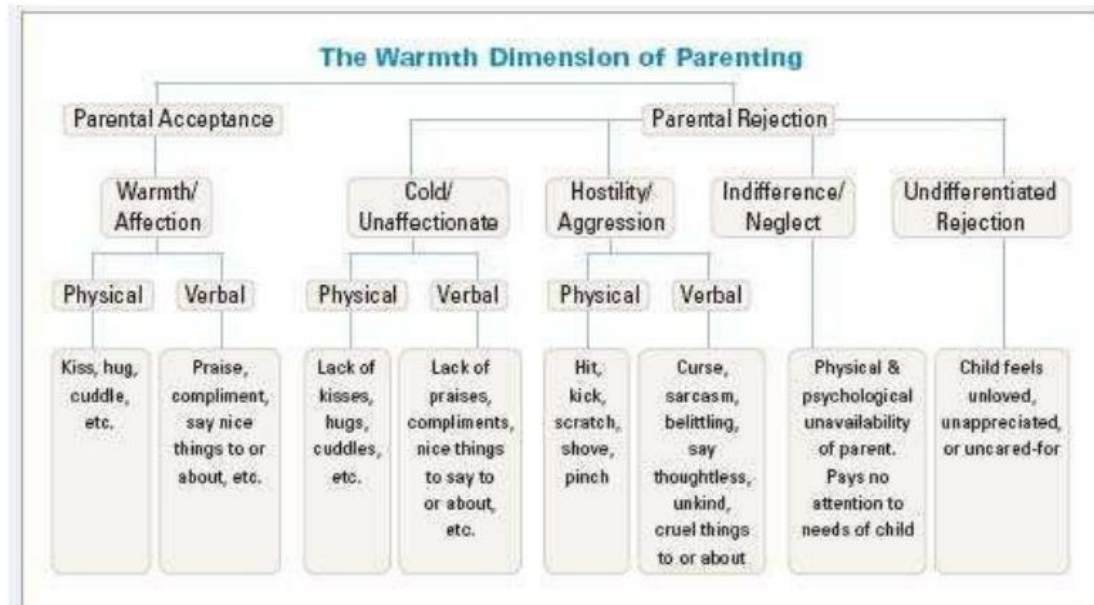
The Parental Acceptance-Rejection Theory (PARTheory), as outlined by Rohner and colleagues (2005), represents an evidence-based framework for understanding the process of socialization and lifespan development. This theory aims to predict and elucidate the primary factors, consequences, and associated factors pertaining to interpersonal acceptance and rejection, with a particular emphasis on parental acceptance and rejection within both domestic and international contexts (Rohner, 1986, 2004; Rohner & Rohner, 1980).

Parental acceptance/rejection is assessed through the Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire (PARQ), a self-report instrument designed to measure individuals' perceptions of parental acceptance rejection. According to Khaleque & Rohner (2002), approximately 26% of the variability in children's psychological adjustment and 21% in

adults' is accounted for by perceived parental (both father and mother) acceptance-rejection.

According to PART theory, this figure (Figure 1) shows the dimension of Parenting;

**Figure 1**



Note. A theoretical model of the warmth dimension of Parenting according to PART theory and its behavioral manifestation to children (Rohner et al., 2012)

Numerous cross-cultural studies have provided substantial evidence indicating that individuals perceiving themselves as rejected by their attachment figures are more susceptible to various negative outcomes compared to those who perceive acceptance. Specifically, such individuals are at an increased risk of experiencing both clinical and non-clinical depression, engaging in substance abuse, and exhibiting socially maladaptive behaviors, including conduct disorder, acting-out, and delinquency, among others (Rohner & Britner, 2002).

While parental warmth (acceptance and rejection) and behavioral control are recognized as vital dimensions of parenting, it is important to acknowledge that they do not encompass the entirety of significant parental behaviors, as indicated by extensive research on diverse parenting approaches. Notably, studies have demonstrated that, even

after accounting for factors such as the child's gender, parental education, and the various forms of parental rejection, all four types of maternal and paternal rejection—namely, coldness/lack of affection, hostility/aggression, indifference/neglect, and undifferentiated rejection—have been independently associated with externalizing or internalizing problems across the developmental span of 7 to 14 years (Rothenberg et al., 2021).

## **Resilience**

Resilience plays a crucial role in an individual's ability to effectively navigate everyday challenges and interpersonal relationships. The American Psychological Association (2014), as cited by Southwick et al. (2014), defines resilience as "the process of adapting well in the face of adversity, trauma, tragedy, threats, or significant sources of stress."

Resilience is influenced by a complex interplay of biological, psychological, social, and cultural factors, shaping an individual's responses to stressful situations (Southwick et al., 2014). It encompasses the capacity to adapt and recover from adversity, challenges, and difficult life experiences. Resilience entails the ability to effectively cope with stress, uncertainty, and setbacks, enabling individuals to rebound from adversity with renewed strength and flexibility. This dynamic process involves the interaction of individual characteristics, including personality traits, coping styles, and cognitive appraisals, as well as environmental factors such as social support, economic resources, and cultural norms.

Importantly, resilience should not be regarded as a fixed trait or innate personality attribute, but rather as a process that can be nurtured and enhanced through various interventions and practices. Its significance lies in promoting overall well-being, mental health, and positive development across the lifespan. Extensive research on resilience has explored its manifestations at different levels, including individual, family, organizational, and community contexts. Understanding and fostering resilience is vital for individuals and communities to effectively manage the daily stressors of life and navigate unexpected events (Bonanno, 2004).

### **Factors That Contribute to Resilience:**

Research has identified several factors contributing to resilience, including positive social support, emotional regulation, optimism, and problem-solving skills. A solid

support network, managing emotions, a positive outlook, and solving problems can contribute to resilience (Masten & Reed, 2002).

#### Building Resilience:

Building resilience involves developing skills and strategies to cope with stressors and challenges. Some ways to build resilience include:

Cultivate positive relationships: Developing positive relationships with family, friends, and community members can provide support and a sense of belonging, enhancing resilience.

Practice mindfulness: Mindfulness, such as meditation or deep breathing exercises, can help manage stress and build emotional regulation skills.

Foster a growth mindset: Embracing a growth mindset, which focuses on learning and growth rather than fixed abilities, can enhance resilience by promoting a sense of self-efficacy and optimism.

Engage in physical activity: Regular physical activity has been shown to improve mental health and increase resilience by reducing stress and enhancing emotional regulation.

Seek professional support: Seeking professional support, such as counseling or therapy, can provide additional tools and strategies to build resilience.

Resilience is a critical skill that can help individuals and communities cope with stress and adversity. By cultivating positive relationships, practicing mindfulness, fostering a growth mindset, engaging in physical activity, and seeking professional support, individuals can build resilience and improve their ability to bounce back from challenges.

An essential aspect of resilience is the genuine ability to provide mutual support and sustain one another, fostering connections within both family and friendship networks (Mucci, 2022). While extensive literature has examined the negative impacts of intimate partner violence (IPV), there has been limited attention given to individuals who have managed to overcome such adversity and develop a resilient outlook (Rollero & Speranza, 2020). (McNaughton et al.,2020) highlight a significant gap in the existing literature concerning the identification of factors that could mitigate the effects of IPV and foster resilience in victims, particularly focusing on mothers and pregnant women.

### **Importance of the study**

The study focuses on Turkish males and females and addresses the significance of understanding intimate partner violence (IPV) in the context of Turkey's conservative patriarchal culture, which increases the likelihood of violence, particularly towards women. Cultural norms and gender roles within such societies impose strict boundaries, and any deviation from these norms may be perceived as rebellious, potentially leading to the use of violence. While the role of culture in promoting violence in Turkey is acknowledged, there remains a lack of comprehensive understanding regarding other factors influencing IPV, particularly the impact of past family care or neglect.

Despite the extensive body of research on violence and family dynamics, trauma, or attachment, few studies have directly explored the relationship between intimate partner violence and parental rejection. Consequently, the scarcity of research in this area accentuates the importance of investigating these aspects. In order to prevent future occurrences of intimate partner violence, it is crucial to identify factors that contribute to its escalation or mitigation. Notably, psychological resilience emerges as a crucial factor that may hinder the perpetuation of violence, thereby highlighting the uniqueness and significance of incorporating resilience into this research.

Violence extends beyond physical acts such as kicking, punching, and sexual coercion; it also encompasses emotional forms, including insults, humiliation, attacks on one's personality, shouting, swearing, and contempt. Regrettably, emotional violence receives relatively less attention despite its prevalence, even among individuals who have not experienced physical violence. It is important to note that women can also perpetrate emotional violence against men, although men tend to be more frequently associated with the use of violence.

In the context of Turkey as a patriarchal society, it is unsurprising that men perceive violence as their entitlement. Interestingly, when women are subjected to violence, they often accept it as a norm and perceive it as the right of men. While the increasing number of educated women contributes to a reduction in acceptance of violence, it remains insufficient. True progress will be achieved when society embraces a gender-neutral

perspective, moves away from patriarchal structures, and engages in discussions that encompass violence as a human issue, free from gender discrimination.

Despite men being commonly associated with dominance, women can also adopt a mindset of domination, which is an erroneous aspect of dominance. Parents play a critical role in addressing this issue. By teaching boys to love through acts of love, empathy, and by not treating boys as superior beings solely based on their gender, and by instilling the understanding that freedom and uniqueness are not exclusive to boys, we can effectively teach boys to embrace love instead of violence. Similarly, by fostering self-respect, self-confidence, and non-oppression in their daughters, and by allowing them to express themselves, caring for them, and loving them, women will become more resilient in the face of violence. Although violence may not be eradicated entirely, it can be curbed and its occurrence reduced over time.

The relationship between Attitudes toward Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) and the Parental Acceptance-Rejection Theory has attracted research interest in recent years. IPV encompasses any behavior within an intimate relationship that inflicts physical, psychological, or sexual harm upon one or both partners. According to the World Health Organization (WHO, 2021), IPV affects one in three women worldwide and is a significant public health issue. The theory proposes that parental interactions with their children influence their emotional and behavioral development. High parental acceptance fosters secure attachment styles and increases the likelihood of positive social and emotional outcomes. Conversely, parental rejection leads to insecure attachment styles and raises the risk of adverse outcomes such as anxiety, depression, and aggression.

Several studies have investigated the association between parental acceptance/rejection and attitudes toward intimate partner violence (IPV). Cyr, McDuff, and Wright (2006) conducted research that examined not only parental rejection but also the link between childhood sexual abuse and subsequent experiences of dating violence, encompassing physical and emotional abuse. Their findings indicated a significant predictive relationship between parental rejection and both physical and emotional abuse within intimate relationships.

Similarly, Whitfield, Anda, Dube, and Felitti (2003) conducted a study that explored the long-term effects of childhood abuse or neglect, including parental rejection, on the perpetration or experience of intimate partner violence in later life. The results revealed an increased risk for individuals who had experienced childhood abuse or neglect to engage in intimate partner violence. Parental rejection was specifically identified as one of the childhood adversities considered in this study.

A seminal study by Widom (1989) also examined the consequences of childhood abuse or neglect on adult involvement in violent relationships, either as perpetrators or victims. The study revealed a heightened likelihood for individuals who had been victims of childhood abuse or neglect to become entangled in violent relationships as adults. Parental rejection was among the various forms of childhood adversity investigated in this study.

Collectively, these studies indicate that parental acceptance/rejection influences attitudes towards IPV among young adults and adolescents. Specifically, parental rejection is associated with more accepting attitudes towards IPV, while parental acceptance is associated with less accepting attitudes. Furthermore, as mentioned previously, resilience may mediate the relationship between parental acceptance/rejection and attitudes toward IPV. It is important to note, however, that these findings do not imply a direct causal relationship between parental rejection and IPV attitudes.

### **Hypotheses and Research Questions**

Variables of this research are:

Independent Variable: Parental Acceptance/Rejection

Dependent Variable: Intimate Partner Violence Attitude

Mediator Variable: Resilience

The hypotheses of this research are:

H1: A positive relationship exists between perceived paternal rejection and intimate partner violence attitude.

H2: A positive relationship exists between perceived maternal rejection and intimate partner violence attitude.

H3: Resilience mediates the relationship between maternal rejection and intimate partner violence attitude.

H4: Resilience mediates the relationship between paternal rejection and intimate partner violence attitude.

The research questions of this research are:

RQ1: Will parental rejection (both mother and father) predict the intimate partner violence attitude?

RQ2: Will it be a difference between parental and maternal rejection and intimate partner violence attitude?





## **Chapter2: Methodology and Results**

### **Participants**

Participants of the current study consist of 110 males and females over 18 years old. All participants are native Turkish speakers.

### **Procedures**

The online survey was publicized on social platforms to be filled by 110 Turkish participants. Every participant was informed with an informed consent form at the beginning of the survey before answering the questions. Participants were offered instructions for each scale, and the survey lasted approximately 10 minutes.

### **Measures**

Personal information form, including gender, age, education level, work status, relationship status, and family status during childhood, was used to collect detailed demographic information about participants. Also, three other scales called Parental Acceptance/Rejection Scale, Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale, and Resilience Scale for Adults were used to collect data about the independent variable (parental acceptance/rejection), dependent variable (intimate partner violence attitude), and mediator factor (resilience).

### **Personal Information Form**

A personal information form comprising research items was constructed to gather pertinent demographic characteristics of the participants. These included fundamental attributes such as gender, age, education level, work status, relationship status, and family status during childhood.

### **Adult Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire (Adult PARQ)**

The assessment of individuals' recollection of parental acceptance-rejection levels was carried out using the Adult Parental Acceptance Rejection Questionnaire (Adult PARQ) developed by Rohner (2005), specifically the mother (Adult PARQ: Mother) and father (Adult PARQ: Father) versions. The Parental Rejection Questionnaire (PARQ) was originally formulated by Rohner, Saavedra, and Granum in 1978 (as cited in Rohner &

Khaeque, 2005). Designed as a self-report instrument, the Adult PARQ aims to evaluate individuals' memories of childhood experiences, typically between the ages of 7 and 12, pertaining to maternal and paternal acceptance-rejection. Both the mother and father versions of the questionnaire consist of 60 items rated on a 4-point Likert scale, ranging from (1) almost never true to (4) almost always true. Within each scale, four subscales are included: 1) warmth/affection (e.g., "expressed kind words towards me"), 2) hostility/aggression (e.g., "ridiculed and mocked me"), 3) indifference/neglect (e.g., "ignored me when I sought assistance"), and 4) undifferentiated rejection (e.g., "did not genuinely love me"). The warmth/affection scale score is reverse-coded, and the sum of all scores yields a total acceptance-rejection score, ranging from 60 to 240. A lower score on the questionnaire indicates higher levels of acceptance. Both the mother and father versions of the PARQ demonstrate strong reliability and validity (Rohner, 2005). The coefficient alpha values for the mother version ranged from .76 to .97, while those for the father version ranged from .81 to .97 (Rohner, 2005). Dedeler et al. (2017) adapted and translated this questionnaire for use with participants in Turkey, resulting in a short version comprising 24 items.

### **Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale (Revised) Form**

The Attitudes Toward Intimate Partner Violence Scale-Revised Form (Fincham et al., 2008) was developed to assess individuals' perceptions of psychological and physical violence within their dating relationships. This scale utilizes a 5-point Likert-type response format ranging from 1 (Strongly disagree) to 5 (Strongly agree). Comprising 17 items, the scale encompasses three distinct dimensions: abuse (8 items), control (5 items), and violence (4 items). Notably, items 2, 4, 5, and 8 are reverse coded to ensure response consistency. Higher scores on the scale indicate a greater acceptance of psychological and physical aggression within intimate relationships.

In order to make the scale applicable to the Turkish context, a Turkish adaptation was conducted by Toplu Demirtaş et al. in 2016. The Cronbach's alpha coefficient for the complete IPVAS-R scale was determined to be .72. The internal consistency coefficients were .65 for the abuse sub-dimension, .62 for the control sub-dimension, and .72 for the violence sub-dimension, indicating acceptable levels of reliability.

Overall, the Attitude Toward Intimate Partner Violence Scale-Revised Form provides a comprehensive framework for assessing individuals' attitudes towards psychological and physical violence within their dating relationships. Its Turkish adaptation by Toplu Demirtaş et al. ensures its applicability and reliability within the Turkish cultural context.

### **Resilience Scale for Adults**

The Resilience Scale for Adults, developed by Friborg et al. (2003), is a comprehensive measure designed to assess resilience among adult individuals. Consisting of 33 items, the scale encompasses six dimensions: social competence, social resources, structured style, perception of self, perception of future, and family cohesion. The overall internal consistency of the scale was reported to be .93, indicating a high level of reliability.

In order to make the scale applicable to the Turkish context, Basım and Çetin (2011) conducted a Turkish adaptation of the Resilience Scale for Adults. The Turkish version of the scale includes the same 33 items, which are evaluated using a 5-point Likert-type response format. Through factor analysis, Basım and Çetin confirmed that the Turkish version of the scale also encompasses the six dimensions found in the original scale: perception of the future, social resources, structured style, perception of self, family cohesion, and social competence. The alpha coefficients for the sub-dimensions ranged from .66 to .81, indicating satisfactory levels of internal consistency. Moreover, the test-retest reliability coefficients for the factors ranged from .68 to .81, suggesting adequate stability over time. Basım and Çetin (2011) stated that the Turkish Version of the Resilience Scale for Adults demonstrated acceptable levels of reliability and validity in their conducted studies. An example item from the scale is "When I am in need, There is nobody that can help me... There is always somebody that can help me..."

### **Design**

The present study aimed to investigate the mediating role of resilience in the relationship between parental acceptance/rejection and attitudes toward intimate partner violence. To achieve this objective, demographic information such as age, gender, education level, work status, relationship status, and family status during childhood was collected through an online survey conducted using Google Forms. Participants completed the "Parental

Acceptance/Rejection Scale," "Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale," and "Resilience Scale for Adults." The study employed a survey method, making it predominantly quantitative in nature. The data analysis procedures planned for this study were as follows.

The Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale comprised 17 items and three dimensions, utilizing a 5-point Likert scale. Reverse coding was applied to certain items, and scores were obtained by summing the responses provided.

The Parental Acceptance-Rejection Scale consisted of 24 items and four dimensions. Separate scoring was conducted for responses related to mothers and fathers. The scale utilized a 4-point Likert format, and scoring was done by summing the answers given. A total score was obtained, with reverse coding required for one dimension. As a result, 10 variables were generated.

The Psychological Resilience Scale consisted of 33 items and six dimensions, employing a 5-point Likert scale. Scoring was based on the average of the responses provided. The decision regarding which items to reverse in the scale was left to the researcher.

Data analysis was performed using the SPSS 26 software. Descriptive statistics, such as frequency and percentage, were utilized to prepare a table for the demographic questions concerning age, gender, education level, employment status, relationship status, and family status during childhood.

Reverse coding was applied to the negatively worded items in the scales. The reliability of the variables was assessed based on Cronbach's alpha coefficients. Scoring procedures for scale dimensions and totals were conducted in accordance with established validity studies.

A descriptive table presenting minimum and maximum values, means, standard deviations, and medians was prepared for the variables. Skewness and kurtosis values were examined to assess the normal distribution of the variables. Appropriate parametric or non-parametric analyses were chosen based on the distributional characteristics of the variables, as indicated by relevant literature.

Difference or correlation analyses were conducted to explore the relationships between the scales, their sub-dimensions, and the demographic variables. Correlation analyses were performed to evaluate the associations between the variables and presented in a table.

Following these steps, regression analysis was employed to assess the effects of the independent and mediator variables on the dependent variable. Mediation analysis was conducted to evaluate the mediating effect using the IBM SPSS Process Macro 4.1 application.

In summary, the data analysis plan for this study involved various statistical procedures, including descriptive analysis, reliability assessment, correlation analysis, regression analysis, and mediation analysis, with the aim of investigating the relationship between parental acceptance/rejection and attitudes toward intimate partner violence, while considering resilience as a mediating factor.

### **Data Analysis**

The analyzes of the data obtained in the research were made in the SPSS 26.0 program. Descriptive findings in the study are given with numbers, percentages, mean, standard deviation, minimum/maximum, and median values. The reliability of the research scales was evaluated with Cronbach's alpha (CA) internal consistency coefficient (Nunnally, 1978). Whether the research data showed normal distribution was evaluated according to whether the skewness and kurtosis values were in the range of  $\pm 1.5$  (Tabachnick & Fidell, 2013). Nonparametric tests were used in cases where the sample size of any of the groups compared was less than 30. T-test or Mann Whitney U test was used to compare two independent groups in the analyses, and the Kruskal Wallis test was used to compare three or more independent groups. Relationships between variables were evaluated with Pearson and Spearman correlation tests. Mediation analyses were performed using the IBM SPSS Process Macro 4.1 application (Hayes & Matthes, 2009; Preacher et al., 2007). In mediation analyses, 5000 resamples were made with the bootstrap method, and the findings were analyzed at 95% confidence intervals. The mediation effect was evaluated according to the indirect effect findings in the analyses in which total, direct and indirect effects were examined. The fact that the lower and upper values of the indirect effect

examined in the 95% confidence interval do not include zero indicates a significant effect, that is, a mediation effect (Darlington & Hayes, 2017; Hayes, 2018). A p-value of  $<0.05$  was considered statistically significant in the analyses.



## Results

**Table 1**

*Descriptive Findings Regarding the Demographic Characteristics of the Participants*

		<i>n</i>	<i>%</i>
Sex	Male	43	39,1
	Female	67	60,9
Age	[Mean $\pm$ SD=33,33 $\pm$ 10,58 ; (min-max= 20-64)]		
Education Level	Middle School graduate	1	0,9
	High School graduate	19	17,3
	University graduate	59	53,6
	Master, Doctorate, or highest graduate	31	28,2
Work Status	Student	29	26,4
	Unemployed	15	13,6
	Working	57	51,8
	Retired	9	8,2
Relationship Status	Single	37	33,6
	Have a relationship	19	17,3
	Married	54	49,1
Length of the Relationship (If there is any)	[Mean $\pm$ SD=10,47 $\pm$ 9,48 ; (min-max= 0,16-37)]		
Family Status in the Childhood	Mother and father were living separately	9	8,2
	Mother and father were living together	101	91,8

Descriptive findings regarding the demographic characteristics of the participants are presented in Table 1. According to these findings, 60.9% (n=67) of the participants were women, and the mean age was  $33.33\pm 10.58$ . 53.6% (n=59) are university graduates, and 51.8% (n=57) are working. 49.1% (n=54) of the participants are married. The mean duration of their length of relationship was  $10.47\pm 9.48$ , and the parents of 91.8% (n=101) lived together when they were children.



**Table 2**

*Findings Related to Research Scales*

<i>Variable</i>	<i>Min</i>	<i>Max</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>Median</i>	<i>Kurtosis</i>	<i>Skewness</i>	<i>Cronbach Alpha</i>
Violence	4,00	20,00	19,19	2,30	20,0			0,718
Control	5,00	24,00	9,53	3,79	9,0			0,594
Exploitation	7,00	35,00	11,28	4,60	10,0			0,782
Attitude Toward Intimate Partner Violence Scale	31,00	63,00	40,00	6,45	39,0	1,478	1,100	0,630
Mother warmth/affection	9,00	36,00	29,23	7,34	32,0			0,946
Mother hostility/aggression	6,00	24,00	10,10	4,86	8,0			0,910
Mother indifference/neglect	5,00	20,00	8,10	3,88	7,0			0,881
Mother undifferentiated rejection	4,00	16,00	6,21	3,33	4,0			0,903
Mother Acceptance – Rejection Scale	24,00	88,00	40,19	17,31	33,0	0,598	1,286	0,966
Father warmth/affection	9,00	36,00	28,73	7,05	31,0			0,934
Father hostility/aggression	6,00	24,00	9,53	4,52	8,0			0,889
Father indifference/neglect	5,00	20,00	8,70	4,02	7,0			0,885
Father undifferentiated rejection	4,00	16,00	6,00	3,18	4,0			0,888
Father Acceptance – Rejection Scale	24,00	94,00	40,50	16,14	35,5	0,825	1,125	0,956
Structured style Perception of future	4,00	18,00	8,06	3,88	7,5			0,937
Family Cohesion	4,00	18,00	7,91	4,58	7,0			0,961
Perception of Self	6,00	25,00	13,95	4,65	13,5			0,761
Social Competence	6,00	26,00	12,13	6,44	11,0			0,967
Social Resources	6,00	27,00	11,61	5,53	11,0			0,947
Resilience Scale for Adults	7,00	30,00	12,10	7,19	9,0			0,978
	33,00	139,00	65,80	31,19	58,5	0,192	1,178	0,988

The descriptive findings of the research scales are shown in Table 2. According to these findings;

- The mean of the Violence sub-dimension was  $19.19 \pm 2.30$ , the mean of the Control subdimension was  $9.53 \pm 3.79$ , the mean of the Exploitation sub-dimension was

11.28±4.60, and the mean of the Attitude Toward Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale was 40.00±6. is .45,

- The mean of the Maternal Warmth/Affection sub-dimension was 29.23±7.34, the mean of the Maternal Hostility/Aggression sub-dimension was 10.10±4.86, the mean of the Mother Indifference/Neglect sub-dimension was 8.10±3.88, the Mother Undifferentiated Rejection sub-dimension dimension was 6.21±3.33 and the mean of the Mother Acceptance-Rejection Scale was 40.19±17.31,
- The mean of the Father Warmth/Affection sub-dimension was 28.73±7.05, the mean of the Father Hostility Aggression sub-dimension was 9.53±4.52, the mean of the Father Indifference Neglect sub-dimension was 8.70±4.02, the Father Undifferentiated Rejection sub-dimension subscale was 6.00±3.18 and the average of the Father Acceptance-Rejection Scale was 40.50±16.14,
- The mean of the Structural Style sub-dimension is 8.06±3.88, the mean of the Future Perception sub-dimension is 7.91±4.58, the mean of the Family Cohesion sub-dimension is 13.95±4.65, and the mean of the Self-Perception sub-dimension is 12.13 ±6.44, the mean of the Social Competence sub-dimension is 11.61±5.53, the mean of the Social Resources subdimension is 12.10±7.19, and the mean of the Resilience Scale for Adults is 65.80±31.19, • The scales are normally distributed according to the kurtosis and skewness values,
- It was determined that the scales and their sub-dimensions were reliable according to Cronbach's Alpha coefficients. Item 4 of the Parental Acceptance/Rejection Scale was excluded from the analysis because it decreased the CA value.

**Table 3***Difference Analysis Findings Regarding Research Scales by Gender of the Participants*

	<i>Sex</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>t</i>	<i>P</i>
Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale	Male	43	43,27	7,16	4,297	<b>0,000</b>
	Female	67	37,91	4,96		
Mother Acceptance – Rejection Scale	Male	43	38,53	16,33	-0,802	0,424
	Female	67	41,25	17,95		
Father Acceptance – Rejection Scale	Male	43	42,34	18,08	0,916	0,362
	Female	67	39,32	14,78		
Resilience Scale for Adults	Male	43	70,51	30,01	1,272	0,206
	Female	67	62,77	31,78		

The results of the analysis of the t-test performed to determine whether there is a difference in the research scales according to the gender of the participants are presented in Table 3. According to these findings, there was a statistically significant difference according to gender in the Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale ( $p < 0.05$ ). When the analysis findings were examined, it was seen that the average of men was higher than the average of women in the Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale.

**Table 4***Correlation Analysis Findings Between Research Scales and Age*

		<i>Age</i>
Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale	R	0,041
	P	0,674
Mother Acceptance – Rejection Scale	R	0,277
	P	<b>0,003</b>
Father Acceptance – Rejection Scale	R	0,149
	P	0,121
Resilience Scale for Adults	R	0,001
	P	0,990

The Pearson correlation analysis findings, which were conducted to determine the relationship between the research scales and their ages, are presented in Table 4. According to these findings, it was determined that there was a significant positive correlation between the Maternal Acceptance-Rejection Scale and age ( $p < 0.05$ ).

**Table 5***Correlation Analysis Findings Between Research Scales and Education Level*

		<i>Education Level</i>
Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale	r	-0,039
	p	0,685
Mother Acceptance – Rejection Scale	r	-0,025
	p	0,799
Father Acceptance – Rejection Scale	r	-0,038
	p	0,693
Resilience Scale for Adults	r	-0,005
	p	0,957

The Spearman correlation analysis findings, which were conducted to determine the relationships between research scales and their education levels, are presented in Table 5. According to these findings, it was determined that there was no significant relationship between research scales and education levels ( $p>0.05$ ).

**Table 6**

*Difference Analysis Findings Regarding Research Scales According to Participants' Work Status*

	<i>Work Status</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>X<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>P</i>
Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale	Student	29	40,17	6,60	3,399	0,334
	Unemployed	15	38,00	7,05		
	Working	57	40,42	6,35		
	Retired	9	40,22	5,95		
Mother Acception – Rejection Scale	Student	29	37,00	16,76	7,565	0,056
	Unemployed	15	38,60	13,86		
	Working	57	39,96	16,52		
	Retired	9	54,55	24,02		
Father Acception – Rejection Scale	Student	29	35,75	13,13	4,733	0,192
	Unemployed	15	43,93	14,66		
	Working	57	41,15	16,89		
	Retired	9	46,00	20,79		
Resilience Scale for Adults	Student	29	69,65	34,46	1,598	0,660
	Unemployed	15	62,26	28,46		
	Working	57	66,21	30,67		
	Retired	9	56,66	30,48		

The analysis results of the Kruskal Wallis tests, which were conducted to determine whether there was a difference in the research scales according to the work status of the participants, are presented in Table 6. These findings found no significant differences in the research scales according to the job status ( $p>0.05$ ).

**Table 7**

*Difference Analysis Findings Regarding Research Scales According to the Relationship Status of the Participants*

	<i>Relationship Status</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>SS</i>	<i>X<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>P</i>
Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale	Single	37	41,24	7,42	3,396	0,183
	Have a relationship	19	39,94	7,23		
	Married	54	39,18	5,34		
Mother Acception – Rejection Scale	Single	37	41,45	20,32	1,841	0,398
	Have a relationship	19	35,78	13,57		
	Married	54	40,87	16,26		
Father Acception – Rejection Scale	Single	37	42,83	19,42	3,807	0,149
	Have a relationship	19	36,26	12,16		
	Married	54	40,40	14,80		
Resilience Scale for Adults	Single	37	61,43	30,93	0,617	0,735
	Have a relationship	19	68,31	27,07		
	Married	54	67,9074	32,90		

The results of the analysis of the Kruskal Wallis tests performed to determine whether there is a difference in the research scales according to the relationship status of the participants are presented in Table 7. These findings found no significant differences in the research scales according to the relationship status ( $p>0.05$ ).

**Table 8***Correlation Analysis Findings Between Research Scales and Length of the Relationship*

		<i>Length of the Relationship</i>
Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale	R	0,043
	p	0,741
Mother Acceptance – Rejection Scale	R	0,247
	P	0,053
Father Acceptance – Rejection Scale	R	0,244
	P	0,056
Resilience Scale for Adults	R	0,056
	P	0,668

The Pearson correlation analysis findings, which were conducted to determine the relationship between the research scales and the duration of their relationship, are presented in Table 8. According to these findings, it was determined that there was no significant relationship between the research scales and the length of the relationship ( $p>0.05$ ).

**Table 9**

*Difference Analysis Findings Regarding Research Scales According to the Family Status in Childhood of the Participants*

	<i>Family Status in Childhood</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>Z</i>	<i>P</i>
Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale	Mother and father were living separately	9	43,66	10,97	-0,705	0,481
	Mother and father were living together	101	39,68	5,86		
Mother Acception – Rejection Scale	Mother and father were living separately	9	45,88	19,85	-1,059	0,290
	Mother and father were living together	101	39,68	17,08		
Father Acception – Rejection Scale	Mother and father were living separately	9	58,22	23,46	-2,468	<b>0,014</b>
	Mother and father were living together	101	38,93	14,46		
Resilience Scale for Adults	Mother and father were living separately	9	58,00	30,83	-0,940	0,347
	Mother and father were living together	101	66,49	31,28		

The analysis findings of the Mann-Whitney U test, which was conducted to determine whether there was a difference in the research scales according to the family status in childhood, are presented in Table 9. According to these findings, a statistically significant difference was found in the Father Acceptance-Rejection Scale according to the separation of the parents as a child ( $p < 0.05$ ). When the analysis findings were examined, it was seen that the average of those whose parents lived separately as a child in the Father

Acceptance-Rejection Scale was higher than the average of those whose parents lived together as a child.

**Table 10**

*Correlation Analysis Findings Between Research Scales*

		Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale	Mother Acceptance- Rejection Scale	Father Acceptance- Rejection Scale	Resilience Scale for Adults
Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale	R P	1			
Mother Acceptance – Rejection Scale	R P	0,194 <b>0,042</b>	1		
Father Acceptance – Rejection Scale	R P	0,305 <b>0,001</b>	0,452 <b>0,000</b>	1	
Resilience Scale for Adults	R P	0,009 0,923	-0,051 0,596	0,000 0,997	1

The Pearson correlation analysis findings, which were conducted to determine the relationships between the research scales, are presented in Table 10. According to these findings;

- There is a positive and significant relationship between the Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale, Mother Acceptance-Rejection Scale, and Father Acceptance-Rejection Scale,
- It was determined that there was a significant positive correlation between the Mother Acceptance-Rejection Scale and the Father Acceptance-Rejection Scale ( $p < 0.05$ ).
- When the Resilience Scale for Adults was controlled, the change in the relationship between the Mother Acceptance-Rejection Scale and the Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale was examined with the partial correlation test. It was observed that the positive and significant relationship between the Mother Acceptance-Rejection Scale and the Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale continued, but the level of the relationship ( $r = 0.194$ ;  $p = 0.043$ ) did not change. When the Resilience Scale for Adults was controlled, the change in the relationship between the Father Acceptance-Rejection Scale and the

Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale was examined with the partial correlation test. According to the findings, it was observed that the positive significant relationship between the Father Acceptance-Rejection Scale and the Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale continued, but the level of the relationship ( $r=0,305$ ;  $p=0,001$ ) did not change. It showed that the Psychological Resilience Scale for Adults did not affect the relationship between the Mother Acceptance-Rejection Scale, the Father Acceptance-Rejection Scale, and the Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale.



**Table 11**

*The Mediating Effect of Resilience on the Relationship between the Mother Acceptance-Rejection Scale and the Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale*

	<i>Resilience Scale for Adults</i>					<i>Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale</i>				
	<b>B</b>	<b>β</b>	<b>SH</b>	<b>LLCI</b>	<b>ULCI</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>β</b>	<b>SH</b>	<b>LLCI</b>	<b>ULCI</b>
Mother Acceptance-Rejection Scale	-0,092	-0,051	0,173	-0,435	0,251	0,073*	0,195*	0,035	0,002	0,143
Resilience Scale for Adults	-	-	-	-	-	0,004	0,019	0,020	-0,035	0,043
Fixed	69,503*		7,573	54,491	84,515	36,828*		2,062	32,741	40,914
			R <sup>2</sup> =0,003					R <sup>2</sup> =0,038		
			F=0,283; p=0,596					F=2,112; p=0,126		
Total Effect (Mother Acceptance – Rejection Scale – Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale)						0,073*	0,195*	0,035	0,003	0,142
Direct Effect (Mother Acceptance – Rejection Scale – Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale)						0,073*	0,195*	0,035	0,002	0,143
Indirect Effect (Mother Acceptance – Rejection Scale – Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale)						0,000	-0,001	0,003	-0,010	0,005

\* $p < 0.05$ ; B: Non-Standardized Regression Coefficient;  $\beta$ : Standardized Regression Coefficient; SH: Standard error; LLCI: Lower Confidence Interval (B); ULCI: Upper Confidence Interval (B)

Table 11 shows the analysis results to examine the mediation effect of Resilience on the relationship between the Mother Acceptance-Rejection Scale and the Intimate Partner Violence Attitude scale. In the first regression model, the effect of the Mother Acceptance-Rejection scale on Resilience for Adults was not significant ( $B = -0.092$  [CI:  $-0.435; 0.251$ ];  $\beta: 0.051$ ). In the second regression model, the effect of the Mother Acceptance-Rejection Scale on the Intimate Partner Violence Attitude scale was significant ( $B = 0.073$  [CI:  $0.002; 0.143$ ];  $\beta: 0.195$ ), while the effect of Adult Resilience on the Intimate Partner Violence Attitude scale was not significant ( $B = 0.004$  [CI:  $-0.035; 0.043$ ];  $\beta: 0.019$ ). The total effect value of the Mother Acceptance-Rejection scale on the Intimate Partner Violence Attitude scale was

$B = 0.073$  [CI:  $0.003; 0.142$ ];  $\beta: 0.195$ , and the total effect was significant. The direct effect value of the Mother Acceptance-Rejection scale on the Intimate Partner Violence Attitude scale was  $B = 0.073$  [CI:  $0.002; 0.143$ ];  $\beta: 0.195$ , and was determined that the direct effect was significant. The indirect effect value of the Mother Acceptance-Rejection Scale on the

Intimate Partner Violence Attitude scale was  $B = 0.000$  [CI:  $-0.010; 0.005$ ];  $\beta: -0.001$ , and it was seen that the indirect effect of the Mother Acceptance-Rejection scale on the Intimate Partner Violence Attitude scale was not significant. These findings show no mediating effect in the relationship between the Resilience, Maternal Acceptance-Rejection scale, and the Intimate Partner Violence Attitude scale.

**Table 12**

*Mediating Effect of Resilience on the Relationship between the Father Acceptance-Rejection Scale and the Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale*

	<i>Resilience Scale for Adults</i>					<i>Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale</i>				
	<b>B</b>	<b>β</b>	<b>SH</b>	<b>LLCI</b>	<b>ULCI</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>β</b>	<b>SH</b>	<b>LLCI</b>	<b>ULCI</b>
Father Acceptance-Rejection Scale	-0,001	0,000	0,186	-0,369	0,368	0,122*	0,305*	0,037	0,049	0,195
Resilience Scale for Adults	-	-	-	-	-	0,002	0,009	0,019	-0,036	0,040
Fixed	65,825*		8,105	49,760	81,890	34,936*		2,035	30,902	38,969
			R <sup>2</sup> =0,000					R <sup>2</sup> =0,093		
			F=0,000; p=0,997					F=5,511; p=0,005		
Total Effect (Father Acceptance – Rejection Scale – Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale)						0,122*	0,305*	0,037	0,049	0,195
Direct Effect (Father Acceptance – Rejection Scale – Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale)						0,122*	0,305*	0,037	0,049	0,195
Indirect Effect (Father Acceptance – Rejection Scale – Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale)						0,000	0,000	0,003	-0,007	0,006

\* $p < 0.05$ ; B: Non-Standardized Regression Coefficient;  $\beta$ : Standardized Regression Coefficient; SH: Standard error; LLCI: Lower Confidence Interval (B); ULCI: Upper Confidence Interval (B)

Table 12 shows the analysis results to examine the mediating effect of Resilience on the relationship between the Father Acceptance-Rejection scale and the Intimate Partner Violence Attitude scale. In the first regression model, the effect of the Father Acceptance-Rejection scale on Resilience for Adults was not significant ( $B = -0.001$  [CI: -0.369; 0.368];  $\beta: 0.000$ ). In the second regression model, the effect of the Father Acceptance-Rejection scale on the Intimate Partner Violence Attitude scale was significant ( $B = 0.122$  [CI: 0.049; 0.195];  $\beta: 0.305$ ), while the effect of Resilience on the Intimate Partner Violence Attitude scale was not significant ( $B = 0.002$  [CI: -0.036; 0.040];  $\beta: 0.009$ ). The total effect value of the Father Acceptance-Rejection scale on the Intimate Partner Violence Attitude scale was  $B = 0.122$

[CI: 0.049; 0.195];  $\beta: 0.305$ , and it was determined that the total effect was significant. The direct effect value of the Father Acceptance-Rejection scale on the Intimate Partner Violence

Attitude scale was  $B = 0.122$  [CI: 0.049; 0.195];  $\beta: 0.305$ , and it was determined that the direct effect was significant. The indirect effect value of the Father Acceptance-Rejection scale on the Intimate Partner Violence Attitude scale was  $B = 0.000$  [CI: -0.007; 0.006];  $\beta: 0.000$ , and it was seen that the indirect effect of the Mother Acceptance-Rejection scale on the Intimate Partner Violence Attitude scale was not significant. These findings show no mediating effect in the relationship between the Resilience, Father Acceptance-Rejection scale and the Intimate Partner Violence Attitude scale.



### **Chapter3 – Limitations, Discussion, Further Research Implications, and References**

#### **Limitations**

The present study is subject to several potential limitations. First, the sample size is relatively small, which may restrict the generalizability of the findings. The participants' responses to the surveys require thoughtful consideration, potentially introducing response biases. Moreover, the homogeneous cultural background of the participants limits the extent to which the findings can be applied to other cultural contexts, considering that culture can play a significant role in shaping attitudes and behaviors. Furthermore, the assumption of heterosexual relationships among the study participants restricts the scope of the findings and discussions.

As mentioned above, the study conducted with a small, culturally homogeneous group of participants entails inherent limitations. One of these limitations pertains to limited generalizability, as the findings may not be applicable to broader populations with diverse cultural norms, values, and experiences. The lack of diversity within the sample, in terms of demographic characteristics such as age, gender, socioeconomic status, or educational level, could also constrain the study's capacity to draw comprehensive conclusions regarding the phenomenon under investigation. Additionally, the presence of social desirability bias may skew participants' responses toward socially acceptable norms and behaviors, thereby compromising the accurate reflection of their true attitudes or behaviors.

Another limitation is the potential experimenter bias, as the researcher sharing the same cultural background as the participants may hold biases or assumptions that could inadvertently influence the interpretation of behaviors or responses.

Furthermore, employing a participant self-report technique introduces additional limitations. Reliance on participants' self-reporting of their thoughts, feelings, and behaviors can be susceptible to biases and inaccuracies. Recollection errors and social desirability may lead to the provision of incomplete or distorted information, hindering a comprehensive understanding of the phenomena under study. Moreover, sampling bias may arise, potentially leading to the selection of a sample that does not accurately

represent the broader population, thereby compromising the generalizability of the findings. Specifically, the study's generalizability may be confined to specific regions or communities within Turkey. Additionally, the online data collection method may limit participants' ability to seek clarification on unclear items, despite the provision of a contact e-mail for inquiries, consequently impacting the reliability of responses.

However, these aforementioned limitations are common challenges encountered in many research studies.

### **Discussion and Further Implications**

According to the results of the data, there is a positive and significant relationship between the Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale, Mother Acceptance-Rejection Scale, and Father Acceptance-Rejection Scale. Feeling rejected by the mother or father further increases justifying attitudes toward intimate partner violence. It means that when rejection increases, the attitudes toward aggressivity to the other in the relationship and acceptance of the intimate partner violence increases. Also, it was determined that there was a significant positive correlation between the Mother Acceptance-Rejection Scale and the Father AcceptanceRejection Scale.

Other findings of the data show that the average of men was higher than the average of women in the Intimate Partner Violence Attitude Scale. This means that men are more prone to justify intimate partner violence than women. In addition, it was determined that there was a significant positive correlation between the Maternal Acceptance-Rejection Scale and age. According to the family status in childhood, a statistically significant difference was found in the Father Acceptance-Rejection Scale for the separation of the parents as a child. It shows that the average of those whose parents lived separately as a child in the Father AcceptanceRejection Scale was higher than the average of those whose parents lived together as a child. It demonstrates that children whose parents separated are more inclined to rejection from the father.

According to psychodynamic theory, parental attitudes play a crucial role in shaping their children's later violent attitudes. Specifically, two key psychodynamic concepts—identification and internalization—provide insights into this process.

Firstly, identification refers to the child's tendency to adopt characteristics, values, and behaviors of significant individuals in their environment, particularly their parents. If a child grows up in an environment where aggression or violence is present, they may identify with and internalize these aggressive attitudes as part of their own sense of self. Through identification, the child may come to view violence as a legitimate means of expressing themselves or solving conflicts (Saravay, Grossman, Dendy, & Dendy, 1994).

Secondly, internalization involves the child's internal incorporation of external influences, such as parental attitudes and values. If a child repeatedly witnesses or experiences aggressive or violent behaviors from their parents, they may internalize these behaviors as normative and acceptable. These internalized attitudes can shape the child's perception of relationships, conflict resolution, and the expression of anger, potentially leading to the development of violent attitudes in later life (Saravay, Grossman, Dendy, & Dendy, 1994).

According to Ferenczi's theory of trauma, the fundamental issue in cases of abuse is that due to the child's limited defense mechanisms, they internalize or assimilate the aggressiveness and guilt of the adult involved. In this process, the child identifies with the adult's emotions, often leading to the integration of these emotions into their own personality development (MUCCI, 2019).

Furthermore, psychodynamic theory highlights the significance of the parent-child relationship in the formation of personality and attitudes. If a child experiences inconsistent or unpredictable parenting, where discipline is harsh and lacks empathy, they may develop feelings of frustration, anger, and powerlessness. These unresolved emotions can contribute to the development of hostile or violent attitudes as a means to regain a sense of control and power.

It is important to note that psychodynamic theory recognizes the multifaceted nature of violence, and the influence of parental attitudes is just one factor among many that contribute to the development of violent attitudes in children. Environmental factors, societal norms, and individual psychological processes also interact to shape a child's propensity for violence.

The study acknowledges the limitations in its contextual scope, highlighting the potential influence of increased participant numbers and cultural diversity. The findings suggest that resilience may not play a central role in mitigating the impact of parental rejection on attitudes toward intimate partner violence (IPV). Future research could investigate this relationship in alternative contexts, such as different cultures or generations, as culture may influence the role of resilience in the association between parental rejection and IPV. The impact of trauma is influenced by multiple factors, including the quality of social and personal significance attached to the event and the cultural context in which it occurs (MUCCI, 2019). The traumatic effects of child abuse, including psychological, physical, sexual abuse, and incest, have often been underestimated by many cultures. This underestimation can be attributed to the cultural acceptance of violence, exploitation, aggression, control, and domination towards children and marginalized groups such as women (Briere, 1992; Herman, 1992; Perry, 1995, as cited in MUCCI, 2019). It is important to note that this study was conducted exclusively with Turkish individuals aged 18 years and older, whose cultural beliefs and norms contribute to the perpetuation of gender roles, where women are expected to endure violence and men are encouraged to exhibit dominance and aggression. Consequently, even though individuals may exhibit high levels of resilience, they may remain in abusive relationships. This issue is particularly prevalent in rural areas where limited awareness, education, and low socioeconomic status further exacerbate vulnerability. Conversely, individuals residing in major urban centers may exhibit greater awareness. A comparative analysis of attitudes toward IPV in Western and Eastern cultures could shed light on the influence of cultural structures on these perspectives. Additionally, examining the mediating role of resilience in a study conducted in Western contexts could provide further insight.

Further research endeavors could explore alternative mechanisms underlying the association between parental acceptance/rejection and attitudes toward IPV, investigating potential mediating variables or considering the influence of different moderators. It would be valuable to explore the generalizability of these findings across diverse populations, including individuals from varying cultural backgrounds or those with varying levels of exposure to IPV. Investigating the applicability of these findings to

different populations, particularly those with differing exposure levels to intimate partner violence, represents a valuable avenue for future study.

Understanding and examining attitudes toward IPV against women is of utmost importance, given that women are frequently the primary victims of IPV. Although the significance of resilience processes among females who have experienced IPV has been acknowledged in scientific literature, the influence of cultural context on resilience remains unclear (LópezFuentes & Calvete, 2015). Furthermore, there have been notable gender-based differences in perceived parental acceptance and psychological resilience (Epli, Batık, Çabuker, et al., 2023).

A comprehensive systematic analysis aimed at identifying cultural and structural predictors of approval attitudes towards intimate partner violence (IPV) against women is imperative for effectively addressing and reducing IPV in Turkey. While significant research has begun exploring factors that influence approval attitudes in developing nations, particularly in Asia and Africa, there remains a need for the development of theoretical frameworks elucidating women's perspectives on IPV.

Previous research has identified several key variables that influence women's attitudes towards IPV. One such variable is employment status (Hindin, 2003; Rani & Bonu, 2009; Dhaher, Mikolajczyk, Maxwell & Kramer, 2010). It was anticipated that employed women would be less likely to accept IPV compared to unemployed women, based on structural reasoning. However, findings from the analysis of demographic data did not reveal a significant association between employment status and IPV attitudes.

Another factor that has been explored is household wealth, which has shown an unfavorable correlation with IPV-supportive opinions (Hindin, 2003; Antai & Antai, 2008; Rani & Bonu, 2009). According to this line of argument, women residing in wealthier households would be less likely to tolerate IPV. Other studies have indicated that women in households with greater resources are more inclined to believe that IPV is unjustifiable (Rani, Bonu, Sidibe-Diop, 2004). Increased household prosperity may lead to improved living conditions and provide individuals with opportunities to pursue education and work outside the home, which can contribute to negative attitudes towards

IPV. Therefore, socioeconomic variables may serve as significant determinants that influence Turkish citizens' attitudes towards IPV.

The absence of legal protection is another critical aspect implicated in the context of IPV attitudes. In certain Middle Eastern countries, weak or nonexistent laws safeguarding IPV victims can foster a culture of impunity for perpetrators of violence, making it challenging for victims to challenge their acceptance of IPV.

Previous studies have also demonstrated that women's attitudes towards IPV are significantly influenced by their level of education and literacy (Lawoko, 2006). Consequently, women with lower levels of education may be more likely to justify IPV. Moreover, research has indicated that access to information and media can diminish women's acceptance of IPV (Gonzales & Brenes, 2004; Lawoko, 2006; Antai & Antai, 2008; Uthman, Lawoko & Moradi, 2009). Hence, women who have access to information are likely to be less tolerant of IPV against women compared to those without such access in the Turkish context.

Furthermore, the decision-making capacity of women within households plays a crucial role in shaping attitudes towards IPV. Previous research has shown that women's opinions on IPV are significantly predicted by their ability to make decisions within the home (Hindin, 2003; Rani, Bonu & Diop-Sidibe, 2004; Khawaja, Linos & El Roueiheb, 2008; Lawoko, 2008;

Mann & Takyi, 2009; Antai & Antai, 2009; Dhaher, Mikolajczyk, Maxwell & Kramer, 2010; Joshi, 2011). Informed by these findings, it is plausible that Turkish women who possess greater decision-making power in their households would be less accepting of IPV against women compared to counterparts who lack decision-making authority (husbands make decisions). Previous research has also demonstrated that women with sole decision-making authority are less likely to accept IPV compared to women living in households where husbands have decision-making dominance (Lawoko, 2006; Antai & Antai, 2009). The equitable distribution of decision-making power between husbands and wives within households can play a pivotal role in diminishing tolerance towards intimate partner violence (IPV) against women. It is conceivable that Turkish women who share decision-making authority with their husbands are less likely to endorse IPV

compared to those residing in households where the husband wields sole decision-making authority.

Moreover, despite the prominent cultural tradition of bride price in many developing nations, scant research has examined its association with attitudes towards IPV. Prior studies have indicated that women's justification for intimate partner violence is significantly influenced by the presence of a bride price (Marshall & Furr, 2010). Specifically, Turkish women whose husbands or partners paid the bride price were more inclined to approve of IPV compared to those whose husbands or partners did not. Gender traditionalism and women's perspectives on IPV are closely interconnected, as previous research has demonstrated a correlation between patriarchal beliefs and women's acceptance of IPV (Haj-Yahia, 2003; Haj-Yahia & De Zoysa, 2007; Marshall & Furr, 2010; Obeid, Chang & Ginges, 2010; Dalal, Lee & Gifford, 2011).

In light of these investigations, it can be inferred that Turkish women adhering to traditional gender ideologies are more likely to rationalize IPV compared to women who espouse nontraditional gender ideologies. Furthermore, these findings support the contention that in Turkey, where patriarchal views and authoritative control shape prevailing notions of masculinity, women who have been socialized to embrace conventional and patriarchal values are more prone to defend the use of domestic violence (Marshall & Furr, 2010). According to Hortascu, Kalaycioglu, and Ritter-berger-Tilic (2003), women may accept patriarchal norms in order to maintain family cohesion. In essence, women subscribing to patriarchal ideologies are more inclined to believe that husbands possess the right to physically discipline their wives when they deviate from societal norms within and outside the confines of the home. It

is crucial to acknowledge that attitudes regarding IPV can vary considerably both within and between countries, and the factors contributing to violence are intricate and multifaceted.

In summary, examining the dynamics of decision-making power, the influence of bride price, and the role of gender traditionalism offers valuable insights into understanding Turkish women's attitudes towards IPV. These aspects elucidate the complexities surrounding IPV and underscore the significance of socio-cultural factors, such as gender

ideologies and patriarchal norms, in shaping women's acceptance or rejection of violence within intimate relationships. Further research exploring the relationship between parental rejection, resilience, cultural factors, and IPV in diverse cultural contexts can provide valuable insights and inform the development of culturally appropriate interventions and prevention strategies. By examining these factors comprehensively, researchers can contribute to the field's knowledge and work towards reducing IPV globally.



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## **Appendixes**

### **Appendix-1: Briefing Sheet/Informed Consent**

Dear participant,

I am Bilgi Inan, a second-year student in the 'Clinical Psychology for Individuals, Families, and Organizations Master's Program at the University of Bergamo. I am collecting data for my work within the scope of my Master's Thesis with Dr. Andrea Scalabrini. This study was prepared to investigate the relationship between parental rejection and attitudes toward intimate partner violence and the moderating role of resilience in this relationship. Anyone aged 18 and over, male or female, can participate in our research. You are expected to spend an estimated 8-10 minutes throughout the research. Participation in this study is completely voluntary. What is expected from you in order for the study to achieve its purpose is to answer all questions completely and in the way that suits you best, without being under pressure or suggestion from anyone. Participation in this study will be anonymous, and the information obtained as a result will be used for research purposes only, and all your personal information will be kept confidential. This study does not involve risks; however, if anything disturbs you, you are free to leave the research. If you have questions, the contact address is as follows:

[b.inan@studenti.unibg.it](mailto:b.inan@studenti.unibg.it)

Thank you for your contribution to the research.

## Appendix-2: Personal Information Form/Demographic Form

Gender:

- Female
- Male
- Other:.....

Age:

- .....

Education Level:

- Primary School Graduate
- Middle School Graduate
- High School Graduate
- University Graduate
  - Master, Doctorate, or above
- Other:.....

Work Status:

- Worker
- Student
- Unemployed
- Other:.....

Relationship Status:

- Married
- Engaged
- In a relationship
- Single
- Other:.....

If you are married, engaged, or in a relationship, please indicate how long you have been with your partner:

.....

When you were a child, your parents were:

- Living together
- Living separately
- Other:.....



### Appendix-3: Intimate Partner Violence Attitudes Scale

There are questions below about the attitudes toward the partner in intimate relationships.

When answering questions:

- a.) If you are currently in a romantic relationship, answer by considering that person;
- b.) If you are not currently in a romantic relationship, answer by considering your last romantic relationship (if this option applies, consider the period of your relationship with that person);
- c.) If you have never been in a romantic relationship before, answer by considering your ideal partner in mind.

Indicate to what extent you agree with each item below in accordance with the given scale.

1-----2-----3-----4-----5

Strongly Disagree – Disagree - Nor agree nor disagree - Agree Strongly Agree

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
1) I would be flattered if my partner told me not to talk to someone of the opposite sex.					
2) I would not like for my partner to ask me what I did every minute of the day.					
3) It is okay for me to blame my partner when I do bad things.					
4) I don't mind my partner doing something just to make me jealous.					
5) I would not stay with a partner who tried to keep me from doing things with other people.					

6) As long as my partner doesn't hurt me, "threats" are excused.					
7) During a heated argument, it is okay for me to bring up something from my partner's past to hurt him or her.					
8) I would never try to keep my partner from doing things with other people.					
9) I think it helps our relationship for me to make my partner jealous.					
10) It is no big deal if my partner insults me in front of others.					
11) It is okay for me to tell my partner not to talk to someone of the opposite sex.					
12) Threatening a partner with a knife or gun is never appropriate.					
13) I think it is wrong to ever damage anything that belongs to my partner.					
14) It would not be appropriate to ever kick, bite, or hit a partner with one's fist.					
15) It is okay for me to accept blame for my partner doing bad things.					
16) During a heated argument, it is okay for me to say something to hurt my partner on purpose.					
17) It would never be appropriate to hit or try to hit one's partner with an object.					

#### Appendix-4: Parental Acceptance/Rejection Scale (Mother)

Below are questions about the relationship between mother and child and father and child.

Answer considering the mother in the first part and the father in the second part.

In this section, there are expressions that include the mother-child relationship.

Consider whether these statements are similar to how your mother treated you. Then select the most appropriate option for you from “Almost Always True”, “Sometimes True”, “Rarely True”, “Almost Never True”.

MY MOTHER		Almost Always True	Sometimes True	Rarely True	Almost Never True
1.	Said nice things about me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.	Paid no attention to me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3.	Made it easy for me to tell him things that were important to me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4.	Hit me, even when I did not deserve it	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5.	Saw me as a big nuisance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6.	Punished me severely when she was angry	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7.	Was too busy to answer my questions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8.	Seemed to dislike me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9.	Was really interested in what I did	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10.	Said many unkind things to me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11.	Paid no attention when I asked for help	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
12.	Made me feel wanted and needed	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
13.	Paid a lot of attention to me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
14.	Went out of her way to hurt my feelings	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
15.	Forgot important things I thought she should remember	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
16.	Made me feel unloved if I misbehaved	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
17.	Made me feel what I did was important	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
18.	Frightened or threatened me when I did something wrong	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
19.	Cared about what I thought, and liked me to talk about it	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
20.	Felt other children were better than I was no matter what I did	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
21.	Let me know I was not wanted	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

MY MOTHER		Almost Always True	Sometimes True	Rarely True	Almost Never True
22.	Let me know she loved me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
23.	Paid no attention to me as long as I did nothing to bother him	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
24.	Treated me gently and with kindness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



### Appendix-5: Parental Acceptance/Rejection Scale (Father)

In this section, there are statements that include the father-child relationship. Consider whether these statements are similar to how your father treated you. Then select the most appropriate option for you from “Almost Always True”, “Sometimes True”, “Rarely True”, “Almost Never True”.

MY FATHER		Almost Always True	Sometimes True	Rarely True	Almost Never True
1.	Said nice things about me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.	Paid no attention to me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3.	Made it easy for me to tell him things that were important to me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4.	Hit me, even when I did not deserve it	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5.	Saw me as a big nuisance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6.	Punished me severely when he was angry	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7.	Was too busy to answer my questions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8.	Seemed to dislike me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9.	Was really interested in what I did	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10.	Said many unkind things to me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11.	Paid no attention when I asked for help	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
12.	Made me feel wanted and needed	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
13.	Paid a lot of attention to me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
14.	Went out of his way to hurt my feelings	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
15.	Forgot important things I thought he should remember	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
16.	Made me feel unloved if I misbehaved	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
17.	Made me feel what I did was important	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
18.	Frightened or threatened me when I did something wrong	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
19.	Cared about what I thought, and liked me to talk about it	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
20.	Felt other children were better than I was no matter what I did	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
21.	Let me know I was not wanted	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

MY FATHER		Almost Always True	Sometimes True	Rarely True	Almost Never True
22.	Let me know he loved me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
23.	Paid no attention to me as long as I did nothing to bother him	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
24.	Treated me gently and with kindness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



## Appendix-6: Resilience Scale For Adults

This section includes questions on psychological resilience. Complete the incomplete sentences below by selecting the option that suits you best.

### Appendix: the Resilience Scale for Adults, 33 items

<i>Personal strength/Perception of self</i>			
When something unforeseen happens	I always find a solution	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	I often feel bewildered
My personal problems	are unsolvable	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	I know how to solve
My abilities	I strongly believe in	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	I am uncertain about
My judgements and decisions	I often doubt	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	I trust completely
In difficult periods I have a tendency to	view everything gloomy	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	find something good that help me thrive
Events in my life that I cannot influence	I manage to come to terms with	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	are a constant source of worry/concern
<i>Personal strength/Perception of future</i>			
My plans for the future are	difficult to accomplish	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	possible to accomplish
My future goals	I know how to accomplish	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	I am unsure how to accomplish
I feel that my future looks	very promising	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	uncertain
My goals for the future are	unclear	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	well thought through
<i>Structured style</i>			
I am at my best when I	have a clear goal to strive for	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	can take one day at a time
When I start on new things/projects	I rarely plan ahead, just get on with it	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	I prefer to have a thorough plan
I am good at	organizing my time	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	wasting my time
Rules and regular routines	are absent in my everyday life	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	simplify my everyday life
<i>Social competence</i>			
I enjoy being	together with other people	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	by myself
To be flexible in social settings	is not important to me	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	is really important to me
New friendships are something	I make easily	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	I have difficulty making
Meeting new people is	difficult for me	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	something I am good at
When I am with others	I easily laugh	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	I seldom laugh
For me, thinking of good topics for conversation is	difficult	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	easy
<i>Family cohesion</i>			
My family's understanding of what is important in life is	quite different than mine	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	very similar to mine
I feel	very happy with my family	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	very unhappy with my family
My family is characterized by	disconnection	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	healthy coherence
In difficult periods my family	keeps a positive outlook on the future	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Views the future as gloomy
Facing other people, our family acts	unsupportive of one another	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	loyal towards one another
In my family we like to	do things on our own	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	do things together
<i>Social resources</i>			
I can discuss personal issues with	no one	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	friends/family-members
Those who are good at encouraging me are	some close friends/family members	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	nowhere
The bonds among my friends is	weak	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	strong
When a family member experiences a crisis/emergency	I am informed right away	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	it takes quite a while before I am told
I get support from	friends/family members	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	No one
When needed, I have	no one who can help me	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	always someone who can help me
My close friends/family members	appreciate my qualities	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	dislike my qualities