THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOCIAL SUPPORT AND ATTACHMENT STYLE, PERSONALITY TRAITS AND MARITAL SATISFACTION DRUG USERS IN AHVAZ CITY

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ABSTRACT
One of the factors that affect the performance and dynamism of the family is drug addiction among the families that enhance the social and psychological problems of family members (Copello, 2009). In addition, drug dependence and abuse are among the most important problems of the present era that have found global expansion. The annual report of the World Health Organization (2005) shows that there are about 200 million people in the world who are addicted to various narcotics and the numbers of victims of drug users are added every day. Furthermore, various side effects (including mental, physical, familial, cultural, economic and social disorders) of these narcotics have transcended all social and cultural boundaries and seriously threaten human health (Templeton *et al.,* 2007). Regarding our country, the number of addicts in 1997 (2 million individuals) increased by one and a half time in 2001 (3 million individuals). However, unofficial statistics indicate that there are more than six million addicts in Iran (Heydari *et al.,* 2006).
Today, governments are obliged to incur high costs to fight drug abuse. Having being regarded as a social and personal problem, this phenomenon has been the focus of specialists in various fields. Undoubtedly, it is years that the importance of establishing effective prevention measures and treatment strategies is obvious to everyone. Having reviewed the research literature, it is known that various biological, psychological, social and family factors are associated with drug abuse (Carr, 1999).
This disease has spread world widely and, today, a large segment of these patients are youngsters. Current relationships prevailing in the family, especially the emotional relationships between the couple and their children have had important roles in this outbreak.
Living with someone who is afflicted with drug abuse is stressful. An individual who has drug abuse often does such actions that can have negative impacts on family life and family members. As such, all family members of all age groups (children, spouse, brother or sister, parents, close relatives) are affected and they show high levels of physical and psychological symptoms (Hitchens, 2011).
Clinical findings indicate that family members who have not enjoyed intimate relationship between parents – children and secure linkage make more use of narcotics (Jessor, 1977).
Addiction, as a robust and widespread societal trauma in the society, is a phenomenon affects various aspects of individual's life (whether consumers or family and society). This imposes a huge cost on families and society.
Obviously, the existence of unhealthy and morbid family environments and lack of satisfaction among family members increase their vulnerability to this disease (Helmseresht, 2010).
Regarding the past two decades of research in Iran, few scientific research have been published in professional journals and few articles have been presented in specialized congresses in relation to personality traits, attachment, social support and marital satisfaction among Iranian drug users.
In addition, despite the undisputed importance of attachment disorders in advent of many psychological disorders, researchers have not studied the existence and quality of these relationships and drug abuse. Conducting such researches not only illuminate the distribution frequency of attachment styles among drug abusers, but also they can assess and evaluate the validity and reliability of previous findings on the role of family variables on the advent of drug abuses.
Consequently, this paper tries to examine the relationship between social support, attachment styles and personality traits with marital satisfaction among drug users in Ahvaz city.

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This research tries to examine the social support, attachment styles, personality traits, and addicted couples and analyze the probable relationships among them. Overall, the main question of the present paper is to find out whether there are multiple relationships among social support, attachment styles and personality traits with marital satisfaction among drug users or not.

MATERIALS AND METHODS
Methodology
The sample size of this study included 207 drug users living in Ahvaz city in 2013. These individuals were selected using simple random sampling method. Those drug users (male and female) who were commuting to the four addiction clinics established in the Ahvaz city were selected for this study. Having confirmed their addictions, short interviews were conducted with them. If they would like to cooperate with the researchers, they would be assured that their information would be kept confidential. Then, some satisfaction forms were given to them to be filled out. After that, they were asked to complete four questionnaires of ENRICH Marital Satisfaction Scale, Personality Inventory, Social Support, and Adult Attachment Styles Scale of Collins and Read as the research tools.

Various descriptive and inferential statistical methods (frequency, percentage, mean, standard deviation, Pearson correlation coefficient and multiple regression analysis) were used to analyze the data.

The method used in this research in terms of controlling the variables was the correlation method. The correlation research attempts to examine the relationships among variables. In this study, the relationship between social support, attachment styles and personality traits were considered as predictor variables and marital satisfaction was regarded as the criterion variable.

NEO Test is one of the personality test that is made based on factor analysis and is regarded as one of the latest tests in the domain of personality. McCrae and Costa introduced this test in 1985 as the NEO Personality Inventory. The revised form of this test has been prepared and presented by them under the title of Revised NEO Personality Inventory. This questionnaire consists of 60 questions and it used to assess five major factors of personality. Regarding the short form of the test, each factor is assessed by 12 questions. Regarding the reliability of NEO inventory, the results of several studies suggest that the sub-scales of NEO have satisfactory internal consistency. For example, Costa and McCrae (1992) have reported Cronbach's alpha coefficients between 0.68 (for success) to 0.86 (for Neuroticism).

Originally, Collins and Read developed the Adult Attachment Scale in 1990. However, it was revised in 1996. The scale consists of 18 items upon which respondents rate their agreement or disagreement on a 5-degree Likert scale.

This questionnaire has three sub-scales of dependence, which indicates the extent of a subject's confidence and reliance to others, closeness, Nearby, which measures the extent of a subject's intimacy and emotional closeness with others, and anxiety, which measures the extent of a subject's anxiety from being excluded. Each sub-scale consists of six items. The reliability coefficients for each of the three sub-scales of closeness, dependency, and anxiety were reported as 68/0, 71/0 and 52/0 respectively.

Collins and Read (1990) showed that the sub-scales of closeness, dependency and anxiety have remained fixed and stable within a period of 2 or even 8 months. Since the Cronbach's alpha values of all cases were equal to or more than 0.80, the obtained reliability was high.

MOS Social Support Scale was constructed by Sherbourne and Stewart (1991). This test, which measures the amount of social support received by the respondents, with 19 items and 5 subscales. This scale is a self-reporting tool. Subjects must indicate their agreement or disagreement with each of the statements in a 5-degree Likert scale (Never = 1 point, rarely = 2 points, sometimes = 3 points, often = 4 points, always = 5 points). The minimum score on the test is 19 and the maximum score is 95. To obtain an overall score, all scores are added together. High scores on this scale indicate that respondents enjoy adequate social protection. This test enjoys high level of reliability because its Cronbach's alpha coefficients range from 0.93 to 0.74 (Sherbourne and Stewart, 1991). *The reliability of this test was measured in the present study and Cronbach's alpha coefficient was equal to 0.81.*

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ENRICH Marital Satisfaction Scale was created by David H., Olson, David G., and Fournier, and Joanne M. Drachman. ENRICH Inventory is an instrument consisting 115 questions and 14 sub-scales. Its first scale includes five questions and other scales each have 10 questions. Subscales of this questionnaire are: Idealistic distortion, marital satisfaction, personality issues, communication, conflict resolution, financial management, leisure activities, sexual relationship, children and parenting, family and friends, egalitarian roles and religious orientations.

The correlation coefficients of ENRICH questionnaire with family satisfaction and life satisfaction are 41% to 60% and 32% to 41% respectively which show a good indicator of construct validity. All subscales of the questionnaire distinguish the satisfied and dissatisfied couples and this indicates that the questionnaire has good criterion validity. Regarding some previous research, the values of alpha coefficients (reliability) of ENRICH subscales varied from 68% (for egalitarian roles) to 86% (for marital satisfaction) and a mean score of 79%. The Results of test-retest reliability of this questionnaire within 4 weeks indicated the following values: 77% (for leisure activities) to 92% (sexual relationships and idealistic distortion) with an average of 76%. Mahdavian (1996) conducted a test-retest within one week and concluded the following Pearson correlation coefficients: men: 937%, women: 944%, and men-women: 94%.

Similarly, the coefficients of idealistic distortion, marital satisfaction, personality issues, communication, conflict resolution, financial management, leisure activities, sexual relationship, children and parenting, family and friends, egalitarian roles and religious orientations in men and women group were as follow: 72%, 85%, 76%, 76%, 76%, 81%, 63%, 69%, 87%, 69%, 62%, 73%. The Alpha coefficient (reliability) of 92% was obtained for a 48-item questionnaire used by Mirkheshti (1996). Furthermore, the alpha coefficient of 95% was obtained for a 47-item questionnaire used by Soleimanian (1994).

The reliability of this test was measured in the present study and Cronbach's alpha coefficient was equal to 0.76.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION
Results
Descriptive indicators of the scores of NEO Inventory (neurosis, extroversion, flexibility, agreeableness and conscientiousness) were calculated in the related group and the results were presented in Table 1-4.

Table 1-4: Statistical characteristics of the NEO Scale

Conscientiousness	Agreeableness	Flexibility	Extroversion	Neurosis	
36/67	33/16	28/17	28/44	20/60	Mean
36/94	34/06	28/30	29/07	20	median
5/56	5/75	4/57	6/01	7/77	Standard Deviation
30/94	33/09	20/86	36/15	60/36	Dispersion coefficient
-0/293	1/44	0/219	1/491	-1/240	Skewness
0/049	1/55	0/100	1/086	-4761	kurtosis
3704	3349	2845	2872	2081	Total

As shown in Table 1-4, the coefficients of dispersion of sub-factors, except for the first factor (neurosis), are low which indicate that we have homogeneous scores, except the first factor. Maximum dispersion coefficient of the first NEO questionnaire belongs to the first factor which indicates that, compared to other factors, the scores of individuals in this factor are more scattered. Regarding the skewness and kurtosis calculated for neurosis, it is seen that they are smaller than -1 which indicates that the majority of sample group (drug users who have commuted to the addiction clinic in Ahvaz city) have scored high in neurosis factor. Regarding the extroversion and agreeableness factors, it is evident that skewness and kurtosis values are bigger than 1 which indicates that the majority of sample group (drug users who have commuted to the addiction clinic in Ahvaz city) have scored low in extroversion and agreeableness factors. Besides, skewness and kurtosis values of other factors are less than 1 and more than -1. As such,

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it can be argued that the distribution of scores in the sample group has had no significant difference with the normal distribution.

Descriptive characteristics of the scores of factors of attachment styles questionnaire (anxious, dependent, closeness) were calculated in the sample group and the results were presented in Table 2-4.

Table 2-4: Statistical characteristics of the factors of attachment, social support, marital satisfaction questionnaire

Marital satisfaction	Social support	Attachment			
		closeness	dependency	anxiousness	
25/77	35/07	20/15	14/07	16/15	Mean
26	36	14/76	13/91	15/86	Median
7/05	7/97	3/38	3/23	4/31	Standard Deviation
49/76	63/66	11/42	10/45	18/55	Dispersion coefficient
0/277-	0/644	0/441	0/172	0/442	Skewness
0/040	0/282	0/176	0/076	-0/198	Kurtosis
7602	10520	5608	5191	5961	Total

As shown in Table 2-4, the dispersion coefficients of attachment factors are low which indicate that we have homogeneous scores. Maximum dispersion coefficient of attachment factors belongs to the first factor (anxiousness) which indicates that, compared to other factors, the scores of individuals in this factor are more scattered. Besides, the dispersion coefficients of the other two questionnaires (social support and marital satisfaction) are 63.66 and 49.76 respectively. This value is somewhat high. As such, the scores of these two questionnaires are inhomogeneous. Regarding the skewness and kurtosis calculated for attachment factors and the other two questionnaires, it is seen that they are smaller than -1 which indicates that the distribution of scores in the sample group has had no significant difference with the normal distribution.

The Findings of the Research Hypotheses

Hypothesis 1: There is a relationship between social support and marital satisfaction among drug abusers

Pearson correlation test was used in order to investigate the relationship between social support and marital satisfaction among drug users. These results are presented in Table 3-4.

Table 3-4: Relationship between social support and marital satisfaction questionnaires

Social support		
0/398[**]	Correlation coefficient	Marital satisfaction
0/000	Sig.	

** Significance at 0.01 level

As can be seen in Table 3-4, there is a significant positive relationship between social support and marital satisfaction questionnaires. That can be said, with 99% confidence, that there is a significant positive relationship between social support and marital satisfaction drug users who are commuting to the addiction clinic of Ahvaz city. Thus, we can conclude that increase in scores of social support will lead to increase in scores of marital satisfaction and vice versa.

Hypothesis 2: There is a relationship between attachment styles and marital satisfaction among drug users

Pearson correlation test was used in order to investigate the relationship between marital satisfaction and attachment questionnaire (anxiousness, dependency, and closeness) among drug users. These results are presented in Table 4-4.

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Table 4-4: The relationship between marital satisfaction and attachment questionnaire

Marital satisfaction			
-0/098	Correlation coefficient	anxiousness	
0/089	Sig.		
0/119*	Correlation coefficient	Dependency	Attachment
0/043	Sig.		
0/256**	Correlation coefficient	Closeness	
0/011	Sig.		

*** Significance at 0.01 level*
** Significance at 0.05 level*

As can be seen in Table 4-4, there is a negative relationship between marital satisfaction and attachment questionnaire. However, it should be noted that this relationship is not significant. As such, it can be said, with 95% confidence, that there is no relationship between marital satisfaction and anxiety attachment among drug users who are commuting to the addiction clinic of Ahvaz city. Thus, we can conclude that increase in scores of anxiety attachment will lead to no change in scores of marital satisfaction.

There is a significant positive relationship between marital satisfaction and dependency attachment ($p<0.05$, $r= 0.119$) and closeness attachment ($p<0.05$, $r= 0.256$). As such, it can be said, with 95% confidence, that there is a relationship between marital satisfaction and dependency and closeness attachments among drug users who are commuting to the addiction clinic of Ahvaz city. Thus, we can conclude that increase in scores of dependency and closeness attachments will lead to increase in scores of marital satisfaction of drug users and vice versa.

Hypothesis 3: There is a relationship between NEO personality characteristics and marital satisfaction among drug users

Pearson correlation test was used in order to investigate the relationship between marital satisfaction and personality characteristics (neurosis, extroversion, flexibility, agreeableness and conscientiousness) among drug users. These results are presented in Table 5-4.

Table 5-4: The relationship between personality characteristics and marital satisfaction

Marital satisfaction			
-0/299**	Correlation coefficient	neurosis	
0/004	Sig.		
0/122*	Correlation coefficient	Extroversion	
0/049	Sig.		
0/368**	Correlation coefficient	Flexibility	Personality characteristics
0/000	Sig.		
0/547**	Correlation coefficient	agreeableness	
0/000	Sig.		
-0/034	Correlation coefficient	Conscientiousness	
0/245	Sig.		

*** Significance at 0.01 level*
** Significance at 0.05 level*

As can be seen in Table 5-4, there is a significant negative relationship between marital satisfaction and neurosis questionnaire. As such, it can be said, with 99% confidence, that there is no relationship between marital satisfaction and neurosis among drug users who are commuting to the addiction clinic of Ahvaz city. Thus, we can conclude that increase in scores of neurosis will decrease the scores of marital satisfaction among drug users and vice versa.

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There is a significant positive relationship between marital satisfaction and extroversion (p<0.05, r= 0.122) and flexibility (p<0.05, r= 0.368) and agreeableness (p<0.05, r= 0.547). As such, it can be said, with 99% confidence, that there is a relationship between marital satisfaction and extroversion, flexibility and agreeableness among drug users who are commuting to the addiction clinic of Ahvaz city. Thus, we can conclude that increase in scores of extroversion; flexibility and agreeableness will lead to increase in scores of marital satisfaction of drug users and vice versa.

There is an insignificant negative relationship between marital satisfaction and consciousness. As such, it can be said, with 95% confidence, that there is no relationship between marital satisfaction and consciousness among drug users who are commuting to the addiction clinic of Ahvaz city. Thus, we can conclude that increase in scores of consciousness will not lead to any change in scores of marital satisfaction of drug users.

Hypothesis 4: There is a Multiple Relationship between Social Support with Attachment Styles and Personality Characteristics among Drug Users

Multiple regressions were used in order to investigate the relationship between attachment styles (anxiousness, dependency and closeness) and personality characteristics (neurosis, extroversion, flexibility, agreeableness and consciousness) as predictor variables with social support. The following table indicates the regression analysis used in order to predict the status of social support based on attachment styles and personality characteristics.

Table 6-4: The multiple relationship between social support with attachment styles and personality characteristics

P	T	B	B	^{2}R	R	P	F	Predictor variable		Criterion variable
0/158	-1/447	-0/351	-0/738					Anxiousness	Attachment	
0/387	0/877	0/195	0/765					Dependency		
0/453	0/759	0/130	0/505					Closeness		
0/153	-1/465	-0/343	-0/957					Neurosis		
0/000	5/004	0/681	0/604	0/271	0/385	0/002	9/751	Extroversion		Social support
0/164	1/162	0/299	0/654					Flexibility	Personal characteristics	
0/124	1/582	0/275	1/018					Agreeableness		
0/342	0/234	0/684	0/609					Consciousness		
0/021	2/421	---	27/268					Fixed		

As can be seen in Table 6-4, multiple correlation between predictor and criterion variables equal to R=0.385 which was significant at 0.001 level (F=9.751, P=0.002). Besides, the coefficient of determination was 0.117 that indicates the determinability of criterion variable by predictor variables. Furthermore and regarding the predictive variables, it is clear that only extroversion is significant (P=0.000, β=0.681). It means that there are no significant relationship among other predictor variables including anxiousness attachment (β= -0.351, P=0.158), dependency attachment (β=0.195, P=0.387), closeness attachment (β= 0.130, P= 0.453), neurosis (β= -0.343, P= 0.153), flexibility (β= 0.299, P= 0.164), agreeableness (β= 0.275, P= 0.124) and consciousness (β= 0.684, P= 0.342).

Discussion

Pearson correlation test was used to examine the first hypothesis stating, "There is a relationship between social support and marital satisfaction among drug abusers". Having done preliminary analyses and ensuring that the normality assumptions are not violated as well as homogeneity and linearity, the results showed that there was a significant positive relationship between social support and marital satisfaction.

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The results of the present hypothesis are consistent with the results of researches conducted by Tayebi (2012), Cole *et al.,* (2011), Karademas (2007) and Lion *et al.,* (2001). In explaining this hypothesis, it can be argued that not many studies have been done to examine the relationship between relations governing the family and family member's support from addicts. However, the research results indicate the multiple impacts of behaviors of addict's family members, friends and acquaintances in forming an intimate relationship with his wife and enhancement of marital satisfaction. Although this study did not specifically address marital relationships and addiction, this study indirectly gauged the impact of supportive attitudes and behaviors of addict's spouse on the quality and quantity of his addiction. Also, people who enrolled in this study were intended to stop their addictions. As such, they definitely had different attitudes towards their past. Consequently, it can be regarded as a stimulus generator which, in turn, implies the satisfaction of all those who have supported him in this way.

Pearson correlation test was used to gauge the second hypothesis stating, "There is a relationship between attachment styles and marital satisfaction among drug users". Having done preliminary analyses and ensuring that homogeneity, linearity, and normality assumptions are not violated, the results showed that there was a significant positive relationship between dependency attachment and marital satisfaction. Furthermore, there was a significant positive relationship between marital satisfaction and closeness attachment. Besides, there was no significant relationship between marital satisfaction and anxious attachment. It is shown that marital satisfaction of addicts is related to his/her early experiences with parents or a his/her early emotional relationship with parents in childhood. Proponents of attachment theory have attached much attention to this case. This theory suggests that mother-child relationship in the early years of life, availability of the mother, mother's support during alarmed situations, motherly sensitivity and considering mother as a securely anchor for child determine a person's attachment style. As suggested by proponents of this theory, it is highly probable that child attachment style continues to adulthood based on his/her internalized pattern of attachment as well as its form. These styles are reflected in the individual's adult relationships. Furthermore, the close and intimate relationships in adulthood are also influenced by these practical patterns.

Pearson correlation test was used to gauge the third hypothesis stating, "There is a relationship between personality characteristics and marital satisfaction among drug users". Having done preliminary analyses and ensuring that homogeneity, linearity, and normality assumptions are not violated, the results showed that there was a negative relationship between marital satisfaction and neurosis. Furthermore, there was a significant positive relationship between marital satisfaction and closeness attachment. Besides, there was no significant relationship between marital satisfaction and extroversion, flexibility and agreeableness. Furthermore, there is no significant relationship between consciousness and marital satisfaction. It should be noted that addiction is not something that can be ignored or neglected in communication with spouse. The reflection of addiction in the quality of the relationship with the spouse and the presence or absence of stable or unstable intimate relationships with a partner can shape their future marital relationships. On the other, personality characteristics of men and women can lead to more intimate and closer relationships. Marital disenchantment as well as gradual and deep dissolution of marital relationship is due to several factors. Instability in intimate relationships, personality traits affecting intimate relationships and deep crisis sweeping the partner can be sources of corrosion and erosion in life and mutual relationships. If the addiction begins the process of marital dissatisfaction, the personality characteristic of neurosis, which is accompanied with anxiety, anger, hatred, depression and impulsivity, can be effective to lead to marital dissatisfaction. In addition, since extroversion is accompanied with intimacy, assertiveness, activity, stimulation-seeking, gregariousness and positive emotions, it can be a dynamic resource affecting intimate relationships with spouse and marital satisfaction. Also, flexible addicts are able to understand the world of their spouse more than others. Thus and similar to extroversion, this characteristic has a positive role in maintaining intimate relationships and, ultimately, marital satisfaction. Addicts who are endowed with conscientiousness personality trait demonstrate competence, discipline, loyalty, development, self-regulation and counseling. This personality trait, alone

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or in conjunction with other characteristics like extroversion and flexibility, is among those effective factors supporting marital satisfaction.

Multiple regression tests were used to gauge the fourth hypothesis stating, "There is a relationship between social support and attachment styles and personality characteristics among drug users". Having done preliminary analyses and ensuring that homogeneity of variances, linearity, and normality assumptions are not violated, the results showed that there was a multiple correlation between predictive and criterion (R=0.385) which was significant at 0.001 level (F=9.751, P= 0.002). Furthermore, the coefficient of determination was equal to 0.117. This indicates the determinability of criterion variable by predictor variables. Furthermore and regarding the predictive variables, it is clear that only extroversion is significant. It means that there are no significant relationship among other predictor variables including anxiousness attachment, dependency attachment, closeness attachment, neurosis, flexibility, agreeableness, and consciousness.

Limitations of the Study

1. This research examined the drug abusers who were commuting to the addiction clinic of Ahvaz city. Therefore, the generalizability of the results to ordinary people or consumers in other cities should be avoided.

Drug users had difficulty in filling out the questionnaires. They usually complained of large number of questions. Furthermore, they needed more time and focus that, due to time limitations, was not possible.

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