

### Abstract

The present work aimed to study frustration intolerance beliefs and stress appraisal in male and female criminals. It was hypothesized that stress appraisal and frustration intolerance beliefs will have a positive relationship in female criminals and prediction between frustration intolerance beliefs and stress appraisal in male criminals was also considered. In addition gender difference on both variables and difference between professional and non-professional criminals on frustration intolerance beliefs and stress appraisal was hypothesized. Moreover difference among demographic variables was considered as well. A sample of male criminals (n=50) and female criminals (n=50) was recruited from Central Jail, Kot Lakh Pat and District jail, Lahore. Measures used were Urdu versions of Frustration Discomfort Scale (Harrington, 2005) and Stress Appraisal Measure (Peacock & Wong, 1990). Stress appraisal was found to be the predictor of frustration intolerance beliefs in male criminals while no relationship was found between frustration intolerance beliefs and stress appraisal in female criminals. There was no significant difference between genders on both measures while there is a significant difference was found between the scores of professional and non-professional criminals on Frustration Discomfort Scale. Furthermore a significant difference was found between different educational groups on Stress Appraisal Measure. The study has implications for better understanding of frustration intolerance beliefs and stress appraisal found in different populations.

*Key words:* Frustration intolerance beliefs, Stress appraisal, criminals