

### **Abstract**

The present study focused on making a comparison between hafiz and non-hafiz adolescents on different attachment styles, level of self-esteem and the presence of internalizing and externalizing problems. A sample of 140 school going participants was taken for this study consisting of 70 hafiz (35 girls and 35 boys) and 70 non-hafiz (35 girls and 35 boys) adolescents. The measures employed in the study were two scales and one questionnaire along with a demographic performa. Both the scales consisted of 44 items respectively. The questionnaire Attachment Questionnaire for Children (AQC) had three different statements to assess the attachment style. The results indicated no significant difference between the results of hafiz and non-hafiz population on internalizing, externalizing problems and level of self-esteem. Regression analysis showed that low level of self-esteem is strong positive predictor of both internalizing and externalizing problems among hafiz whereas among non-hafiz for only externalizing problems. Also, with the passage of time, the hafiz boys are more likely to show academic and internalizing problems as compare to hafiz girls. Significant difference was found on demographic variables on attachment styles and internalizing and externalizing problems. Results are discussed in terms of cultural context, gender variances and counseling implications in school setting.