

Abstract

Substance use disorder kill millions of people annually, cost billions; implicate violence and homelessness along with a number of crimes across the globe (Comer, 2015). A very intricate interplay of biological and psychosocial factors is involved in Substance Use Disorder (Barlow & Durand, 2015). This research, mainly, focused on psychological adjustment and emotion regulation (cognitive reappraisal and expressive suppression) of individuals with substance use disorder (drug addicts) and investigated the effects of remembered and present perception of parental acceptance-rejection, remembered interparental conflicts, remembered childhood maltreatment and personality traits on these variables. This research also investigated the differences between drug addicts and non-addicts on all these correlates of drug addiction. Differences between drug addicts and non-addicts regarding their ability to recognize facial expressions of emotions were investigated in a separate experimental study. The overall sample comprised 1448 male participants; 968 drug addicts (already diagnosed with substance use disorder on DSM-5 criteria, age 16 through 39 years, were drawn from 29 rehabilitation centers located in 11 major cities of Pakistan) and 480 non-addicts (with lifelong abstinence from drugs, matched on age, family income and education) were drawn from the same cities. Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire (PARQ: Father and Mother, Adult Version, Short Form), Children's Perception of Interparental Conflict Scale (CPIC), Childhood Trauma Questionnaire (CTQ), HEXACO-Personality Inventory Revised, Emotion Regulation Questionnaire (ERQ), Adult Personality Assessment Questionnaire (PAQ), Modified Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire (MPARQ) and Facially Expressed Emotion Labeling Test (FEEL) were used to collect data from the participants. The results indicated that drug addicts and non-addicts were significantly different on all the variables except remembered perception of maternal acceptance-rejection, expressive suppression and recognition of the facial emotion of

happiness. During experimental study, drug addicts took significantly more average reaction time to recognize facial expressions of emotions as compared to non-addicts. Discriminant function analysis indicated that all these variables, except expressive suppression were able to discriminate between drug addicts and non-addicts. Results of hierarchical multiple regression and path analyses indicated that remembered and present perception of parental acceptance-rejection, some personality traits (openness to experience, agreeableness and conscientiousness) and remembered childhood maltreatment were significant predictors of psychological adjustment in drug addicts. The results of hierarchical multiple regression and path analysis for emotion regulation indicated that remembered perception of maternal acceptance-rejection, few personality traits (conscientiousness and openness to experience), remembered interparental conflicts and remembered childhood maltreatment were significant predictors of cognitive reappraisal, whereas, remembered maternal and present paternal perception of acceptance-rejection, few personality traits (openness to experience and agreeableness) and remembered interparental conflicts were significant predictors of expressive suppression in drug addicts. Some personality traits and present perception of parental acceptance-rejection were significantly mediating the relationship between these correlates of drug addiction in drug addicts. The findings of this research are preliminary and need more empirical evidence for practical significance of these results. These findings provide a provisional model for further research and can potentially help in understanding, prevention and treatment of drug addiction in socio-cultural context of Pakistan. This research provides some important information regarding the relationship of parental roles with other correlates of drug addiction. Findings of this research indicate the implied importance of psychological adjustment and emotion regulation for prevention and treatment of drug addiction.