

## Abstract

Voluminous literature indicates how remembered parental acceptance-rejection correlates with psychological adjustment, forgiveness and vengeance. However, the previous researches have explored forgiveness and vengeance as mediators which many theorists disagree with believing that forgiveness and vengeance being personality dispositions are rather the outcomes of adjustment and not vice versa. Moreover, an inclusive indigenous model testing all variables simultaneously hasn't been developed before which points to a major gap in cross-cultural research in the field. Thus, the current research aimed to that gap by hypothesizing that psychological adjustment significantly mediates the relationship between parental acceptance-rejection, and forgiveness and vengeance. The sample consisted 946 young adults, 250 males ( $M_{age} = 22.42$ ,  $SD = 2.97$ ) and 696 females ( $M_{age} = 20.78$ ,  $SD = 2.28$ ), assessed through carefully designed online survey questionnaire. Data were collected from these participants using adult Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire, adult Personality Assessment Questionnaire, Heartland Forgiveness Scale and Vengeance Scale. The results indicated significant gender differences with men reporting higher mean scores on all variables except emotional instability. The results of path analysis showed that psychological adjustment was significant mediator between parental acceptance and forgiveness while psychological maladjustment was a significant mediator between parental rejection and vengeance. Study will be of extensive benefit to mental health professionals, researchers and professionals in developing early interventions and promoting healthy parenting practices in Pakistan.