

## **Abstract**

Adolescence and adulthood are marked by significant physical and psychological changes in one's life. The major aim of the current study is to explore the role of perceived parental and best-friend acceptance or rejection in determining the self-esteem, satisfaction with life and psychological adjustment of adolescents and young adults.

The sample consisted of 700 participants, ages 11 through 38 years ( $M=18.64$ ) from educational institutes of Lahore, Pakistan. All participants completed the approved Urdu versions of Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire (mother and father) (Rohner & Khaleque, 2005), Best Friend Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire (Rohner & Khaleque, 2005), and Personality Assessment Questionnaire (Rohner & Khaleque, 2005), Rosenberg Self-esteem scale (Rosenberg, 1965) and Satisfaction with Life Scale (Diener, Emmons, Larsen & Sharon, 1985).

The independent sample *t*-test did not indicate any significant differences between adolescents and young adult regarding the perceived parental acceptance-rejection. However, on average adolescents perceived their best friend more accepting as compare to young adults. Multiple Hierarchical Regression Analyses indicated that parental acceptance-rejection was a significant predictor of self-esteem and satisfaction with life. Moreover, MANOVA demonstrated that no demographic variable contribute to variance in Parental Acceptance-Rejection, Best friend Acceptance-Rejection, Psychological Adjustment, Self-esteem and Satisfaction with life.

- The results of study can have implications for counseling and therapeutic settings. The results are discussed in socio-cultural context of Pakistan.