

Abstract

The purpose of the current study was to investigate the impact of family communication patterns and interpersonal competence on social intelligence of young adults. It also aimed to explore the mediating role of empathy in the relationship between family communication patterns and social intelligence. Correctional survey method technique was used to draw the sample. Sample of the study comprised of 300 young adults with age range of 18-35 years ($M=22.97$, $SD=3.96$). Family communication patterns scale (Ritchie, 1989), Empathy scale (Nathan Spreng, 2009), Social Intelligence scale (Frankovsky & Birknerova, 2013) and Interpersonal competence scale (Buhrmester, 1988) were administered to the participants. Results indicated that there was positive correlation between family communication patterns, empathy, social intelligence and interpersonal competence. Moreover, family communication patterns was the strongest predictor of social intelligence followed by interpersonal competence. Furthermore, empathy significantly mediated the relationship between family communication patterns and social intelligence.

Keywords: *Family communication patterns, Empathy, Social intelligence, Interpersonal competence, Young adults.*