Role Of Perceived Social Support In Predicting Behavioral Problems Among Married Adults Exposed To Domestic Violence

Asma Razzaq & Dr. Syeda Razia Bukhari MS Scholar, Assistant Professor SZABIST University

Background

- Did you know? Over 35% of women worldwide and 28% in Pakistan experience domestic violence, with children often bearing lifelong emotional and behavioral consequences.
- Witnessing violence as a child can lead to internalizing (e.g., anxiety, depression) and externalizing (e.g., aggression, rulebreaking) behavioral problems.
- Perceived Social support might be the key to breaking this cycle.



Method

Objective

To explore the impact of perceived social support on behavioral problems in adults exposed to childhood domestic violence.

Hypotheses



1. Higher percieved social support leads to fewer behavioral problems.

2. Gender differences exist in study variables.





3. Behavioral problems would be higher in joint families.

Sample



102 Participants

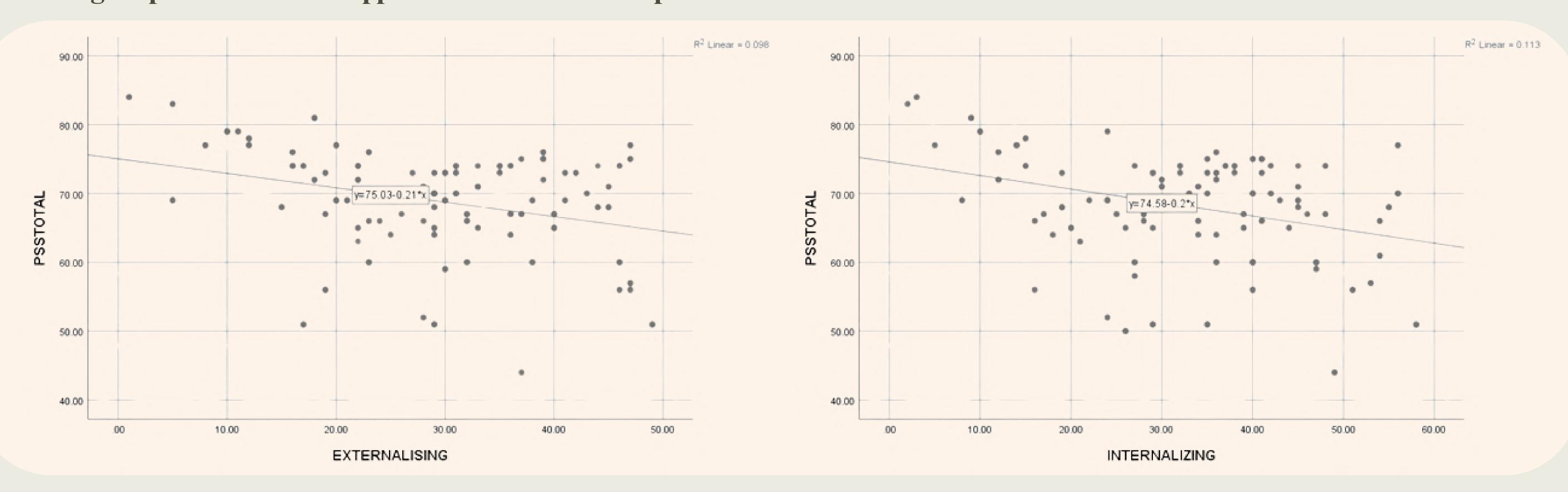


Procedures



Findings

1. Higher perceived social support reduces behavioral problems



2. No gender or family structure impact among concerned study variables

	Male		Female		
	n=51		n=51		
Scale	\overline{M}	SD	M	SD	- p
PSS	69.45	6.44	67.29	8.77	.06
Internalizing	30.64	14.12	32.5	12.83	.42
Externalizing	28.22	12.67	28.46	10.64	.29

	Nuclear (n=45)		Joint (n=57)		
Scale	M	SD	M	SD	p
PSS	68.69	8.29	68.09	7.34	.71
Internalizing	32.38	15.52	30.87	11.63	.59
Externalizing	28.38	13.91	28.32	9.47	.97

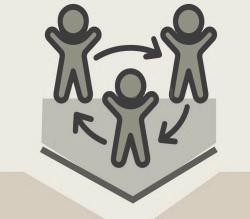
Conclusions

- Perceived Social Support as a Buffer: Adults with higher perceived social support show fewer behavioral problems, even when exposed to childhood violence.
- Real-world Impact: Interventions to enhance social support networks can mitigate intergenerational transmission of violence

Limitations



Small sample size



It is suggested to use multi informants for consistent findings



Long questionnaire



Conduct longitudinal research for causal insights



Social desirability



Control confounding variables for better precision