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HariPriya G. M

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EFFECT OF SENSATION SEEKING AND ANXIOUS TRAITS ON SUICIDAL IDEATION AMONG ADULTS BY BIRTH ORDER

G. M. Haripriya & Dr Reshma N.S.

ABSTRACT

Sensation seeking, Trait Anxiety and Suicidal ideation have not been studied in birth order among adults previously. The aim of the present research was to determine the mediating effect of Sensation seeking on the relationship between Trait anxiety and Suicidal ideation. A sample of 123 participants, aged between 18-30 years, were divided into three groups on the basis of their birth order: First-born, Last-born and Single-born. Measures of Sensation Seeking Scale-V, State-Trait Anxiety Inventory and Suicidal Ideation Attributes Scale were administered in addition to Screening for Psychiatric disorders. Regression analysis and Sobel test was carried out to understand the mediating effect of Sensation seeking. Results indicated that there was a significant association and effect of Trait anxiety on Suicidal ideation in First-born group only, and it was not mediated by Sensation Seeking trait. There was no significant difference in the mediation effect of Sensation seeking on the relationship between Trait anxiety and Suicidal ideation across Birth order.

Keywords: Sensation seeking, Trait Anxiety, Suicidal ideation, Birth order, Effect