



Warm, competence and well-being: the relationship between parental support, needs satisfaction and interpersonal sensitivity in Italian emerging adults

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Keywords: emerging adults; interpersonal sensitivity; psychological basic needs; Self-Determination Theory; parental style

Abstract

In the Italian context, parental bonding has great relevance in promoting satisfaction of emerging adults' psychological needs, impacting their wellbeing, also in terms of interpersonal sensitivity. Aims: to analyse, in 497 emerging adults: the direct influence of maternal and paternal bonding on young interpersonal sensitivity and life satisfaction; indirect influence, mediated by the influence of the parents-offspring relationship on the need for relatedness, autonomy, and competence.

MANOVA analysis showed that parental bonding characterized by high warmth and low over-protection could help satisfaction of all three needs; only paternal bonding directly and positively affects life satisfaction and negatively interpersonal sensitivity; satisfaction of needs could significantly improve life satisfaction. Implications are discussed in the article.

Introduction

Emerging adulthood is a period of life between adolescence and adulthood characterized by exploration and important choices that will direct the future life of the individual, with the ultimate goal of achieving independence and the formation of personal identity (Arnett, 2000).

It is interesting to analyse the satisfaction of these needs during this phase, regarding autonomy, relatedness and competence, according to the Self Determination Theory (SDT) (Ryan and Deci 2017). Autonomy requires the

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3 choice of personal life direction; relatedness requires the establishment of close relationships; competence refers to the
4 feeling of being effective (Ryan and Deci 2017; Schiffrin et al., 2014). When these needs are satisfied, people
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6 experience high levels of psychological wellbeing. When these needs are thwarted, people become vulnerable to less
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8 than optimal adjustment or, in severe cases, develop psychological problems or psychopathology (Ryan and Deci
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10 2017). It seems to be relevant that all three psychological needs are equally satisfied in order to promote personal
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12 wellbeing (Costa et al., 2019; Vansteenkiste et al., 2020).

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14 The satisfaction (or frustration) of psychological needs during emerging adulthood may have several
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16 consequences on the development of the self. Satisfaction of relatedness is associated with interpersonal competence;
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18 satisfaction of autonomy is associated to assertive behaviour; **satisfaction of competence is associated with the ability**
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20 **to solve problems on one's own and the feeling of interpersonal self-efficacy** (Costa et al., 2015; Vidyandhi and Sudhir
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22 2009). Thwarting these needs could lead to feelings of rejection, non-assertive behaviour, and interpersonal
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24 incompetence (Ryan and Deci 2017;). These negative feelings are linked to interpersonal sensitivity, characterized by
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26 excessive attention to the behaviours and thoughts of others and great sensitivity to people's feelings and judgments
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28 (Costa et al. 2015; Vidyandhi and Sudhir 2009). Individuals with high levels of interpersonal sensitivity tend to have
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30 difficulty separating from loved ones and suppress their needs and desires in order to have the approval of others,
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32 resulting in non-assertive behaviour (Masillo et al., 2014). **This could be particularly important during a delicate period**
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34 **like emerging adulthood, full of changes and challenges (e.g., separating from parents to live on own) (Arnett, 2000).**
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36 **During this phase, a personality characterized by high levels of interpersonal sensitivity can create difficulties in**
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38 **transition to adulthood and constitute a potential risk factor for development and wellbeing (Rousseau and Scharf 2015;**
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40 **Scharf et al., 2017).**

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42 Italian emerging adults often live in the parental home for a longer time compared to their counterparts in Europe.
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44 This is due to economic difficulties and lack of social policies for youth, as well as social and cultural factors linked to
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46 strong interconnections and obligations among members of the family (Guarnieri et al., 2015; Inguglia et al., 2015;
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48 Pace et al., 2016; Smorti et al., 2019). These implicit social and cultural norms could thwart the need of autonomy; at
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50 the same time, parental pressure for family obligations could frustrate the need for relatedness. The need for
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52 competence could be hindered by the lack of opportunity to practise new skills and have challenging experiences in life
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54 (Scabini et al. 2007; Pace et al. 2016). How parents regulate independence and connection with their offspring depends
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56 by their parental bonding defined by levels of care and over-protection (Parker et al., 1979). The care refers to parental
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ability to understand and satisfy the needs of their offspring. It reflects a continuum from warm empathetic to cold neglect and unresponsive parental style (Parker et al. 1979; Parker, 1990). Parental over-protection concerns the use of excessive forms of control aimed to protect offspring from negative experiences. It ranges from parental intrusion and discouragement of offspring independence to detached promotion of autonomy and independence (Parker, 1990). The examination of over-protection and warmth in the Italian culture is of extreme interest: the Italian family context is characterized by emotional bonding within firm rule and disciplinary restrictions, and the family model generally promotes autonomy goals together with family bonds and intergenerational loyalty (Liga et al., 2017). For this reason, over-protection could seem like normal behaviour and, from a cultural point of view, could be experienced by offspring not as a limit to autonomy, but as legitimate involvement, an extreme expression of warmth, making it natural for youths to live with and remain financially dependent upon their parents. However, in line with the universal claim of SDT, intrusive behaviours should be considered a form of need-thwarting, and could have a negative impact on individual development.

Parents respond to their offspring's needs through their educational style. The satisfaction of these basic needs, reaching goals, making choices autonomously, and making decisions in accordance with those choices, increases subjective wellbeing levels (Yarkin, 2013). Research has highlighted that satisfaction or thwarting of these needs have an impact on wellbeing (Schiffirin et al. 2014), in terms of life satisfaction (Guarnieri et al. 2015; Ponti and Smorti 2019) and construction of self (Rousseau and Scharf 2015; Scharf et al., 2017). When all three basic needs are equally satisfied, young adults experience high levels of psychological wellbeing; when they are thwarted, young people may develop a more fragile self and, in some cases, psychological problems (Costa et al., 2019; Vansteenkiste et al., 2020; Scharf et al., 2017). Literature has generally focused on parental style influence on the need for autonomy and relatedness (Inguglia et al. 2015; Kins et al., 2009), analysing less the impact on the need of competence that, conversely, seems relevant during emerging adulthood (Schiffirin et al. 2014).

In summary, literature shows that: a) emerging adulthood is a challenging stage of life, the success of which is represented by the construction of a positive and strong self and good life satisfaction; b) in the Italian context, the parent-offspring relationship maintains great importance during emerging adulthood; c) the parent-offspring relationship may promote (or not) the satisfaction of the basic psychological needs of offspring; d) the parent-child relationship may promote (or not) general wellbeing of offspring both in terms of formation of self and in terms of life satisfaction. Based on previous considerations, it may be supposed that parental bonding has an influence on offspring

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wellbeing (self and life satisfaction), both directly and indirectly, through the mediation of the satisfaction (or frustration) of the basic psychological needs. A recent study was conducted in this direction revealing that parental bonding is indirectly related to college students' wellbeing through their impact on the three basic psychological needs (Schiffirin et al. 2014). This study analysed separately the three psychological needs, overcoming a weakness of other studies that analysed either general need satisfaction (or thwarting) (Cordeiro et al., 2015; Vansteenkiste and Ryan 2013) or autonomy and relatedness needs, neglecting competence. However, the American context of the study is different from the Italian context, meaning that results could benefit from cross-cultural inspection. The study assessed parental style only through the maternal relationship, omitting the important role of the father (Newman et al. 2015; Schwartz et al., 2009; Urry et al., 2011). Authors considered only a college student sample, not representative of all emerging adult populations. Finally, they considered youth wellbeing in terms of life satisfaction and psychopathological symptoms. However, a relevant aspect for wellbeing in emerging adulthood is the construction of a strong sense of self defined by low levels of interpersonal sensitivity.

Hypotheses

The present study aims to analyse in a sample of Italian emerging adults a) the influence of maternal and paternal parenting style on need of relatedness, autonomy and competence; b) the influence of each needs on interpersonal sensitivity and on life satisfaction; c) the direct influence of parents-offspring relationship on young wellbeing in terms of interpersonal sensitivity and on life satisfaction.

We hypothesized (Figure1) that H1) the satisfaction of all the three psychological basic needs for relatedness, autonomy and competence would be positively predicted by maternal and paternal warm, and negatively predicted by maternal and paternal over-protection; H2) the satisfaction of need of autonomy, relatedness and competence would be positively associated with life satisfaction and negatively with interpersonal sensitivity; H3) parental and maternal warm would be positively associated with life satisfaction and negatively with interpersonal sensitivity, while parental and maternal over-protection would be negatively associated with life satisfaction and positively with interpersonal sensitivity; H4) the association from warm and overprotection to life satisfaction and interpersonal sensitivity would be explained by the indirect effects of the satisfaction of psychological needs.

Method

Participants

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The convenience sample of this study was composed by 497 emerging adults (135 male) aged between 18-30 years old ($M=23.54$; $SD=3.04$). Regarding the education level, 1% reported to have an elementary certification, 6% had middle school certification, 71% had a high school diploma, and 22% reported to have an university degree. Regarding the working status, 48% of participants reported to do not have a job, 23% reported an occasional job, 23% a stable and continuous job, 6% reported to work without a contract, and 1% declared to receive unemployment benefits. 59% of sample lived with their origin family for the entire time, 18% lived with their origin family for just a period of the week, 6% lived alone, 10% lived with partner, and 7% lived with friends. *As can be seen from the participants description, a large percentage of individuals do not yet have a stable job. This reflects the general Italian situation, where the unemployment rate is stable at 9.8% and among young people it rises to 30.3% (+0.6 points) (ISTAT, 2020).*

Procedure

All participants were recruited from a group of graduated trainees in psychology through their friends, associations in the local area, and advertisements on social networks and in the university's networks. Only emerging adults aged between 24-30 were selected. Participation in the study was voluntary and anonymous, and prior permission was obtained from each of them. Participants received written information about the study and no one received any compensation. Participation was in line with the ethical standards of the 1964 Helsinki Declaration and its later amendments or comparable ethical standards.

Measures

Parental bonding. The Parental Bonding Instrument (PBI) (Parker et al. 1979) is a 21-item questionnaire on a 4 point Likert scale, measuring the parental style as reported by offspring. Two scales, referred to care and overprotection dimensions of parenting, are calculated for each parent. The psychometric properties of PBI have been documented (Parker 1989), and the internal consistency in this study was adequate.

Need satisfaction. The Basic Psychological Need Satisfaction and Frustration Scale (BPNSF; Chen et al., 2015) contains 24 items on a 5-point Likert scale assessing the satisfaction of psychological basic needs. For this study, the total average of the items was computed reversing the need frustration items. The reliability and validity of BPNSF have been documented (Chen et al. 2015; Liga et al. 2020), and internal consistency in this study was adequate.

Life satisfaction. Life satisfaction was measured with a 5-item scale which assessed the overall degree of adolescents' satisfaction with their lives (Diener et al., 1985). The items were presented as declarative statements and

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participants were asked to indicate on a 5-point scale the extent to which each statement was true for them. In the present study, the scale has acceptable internal reliabilities.

Interpersonal Sensitivity. Interpersonal sensitivity was measured by the Italian version of the Interpersonal Sensitivity Measure (IPSM) (Boyce and Parker 1989), whose reliability and validity have been confirmed. The IPSM is a self-report questionnaire developed to measure the excessive awareness of and sensitivity to, the behaviour and feelings of others. The scale has acceptable internal reliabilities.

Data Analysis

Descriptive and preliminary analyses were conducted to determine whether there were associations between the background variables and the study variables. The working status was coded in two groups: those who do not work were coded as 0 (including participants without a job or receive unemployment benefits) and those who work were coded as 1 (including participants with an occasional or continuous job or without a contract). The housing condition was coded in two groups: those who still lived with their origin family were coded as 0 (including participants with their origin family for the entire time or for just a period of the week) and those who have left their origin family were coded as 1 (including participants that lived alone or with a partner or with friends and/or colleagues). Furthermore, to determine the role of the background variables in the study variables, a series multivariate analysis of covariance (MANCOVA) was conducted with gender, educational level, housing condition, and working status (categorical/ordinal background variables) as fixed factors, and with age (continuous background variables) as covariate, and with all study variables as dependent variables. The effects of the background variables were controlled in the model to have a more possible conservative analysis. To test the proposed models, structural equation modelling (SEM) with latent variables and the integration of bootstrapping approach with 5000 replication samples. Because SEM with latent variables require the specification of at least three indicators for each construct, three parcels of items were used for each latent construct created from the mean of selected items from the scale. As a first step of the SEM approach a measurement model was tested with all the latent variables correlated each-others represented by the indicators. In a second step a model with only paths from parental variables to Autonomy, Competence and Relatedness and from Autonomy, Competence and Relatedness to Life Satisfaction, Interpersonal Sensitivity, was tested. In a third step, the full hypothesized model (Figure1) with all the direct and indirect associations between the study variables was tested. In a fourth step, to examine the possible moderating role of participants' gender, a multigroup analysis was conducted testing a constrained model with all the regression paths set equal across the two

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groups compared to an unconstrained model with all the regression paths allowed to vary across the two groups. Finally, in a fifth step, the final full hypothesized model (Figure1) was controlled for the effects of the background variables, adding paths from age, gender, educational level, housing condition, and working status to all the study's variables. The evaluation of the models was tested by the examination of several fit indices: a non-significant χ^2 value; CFI values above .95; RMSEA below .06; SRMR below .06.

Results

In table1 are shown for all the study variables the descriptive analyses and the correlations. Examination for difference between participants' ratings of paternal and maternal care and overprotection, showed that participants reported higher levels of maternal care, $t(496)=7.75$, $p<.001$, $d=.36$, and overprotection, $t(496)=4.23$, $p<.001$, $d=.19$, compared to paternal ratings. There were no overall multivariate effects for any background variables, gender, Wilks's $\lambda=.97$, $F(9,461)=1.52$, $p=.14$, $\eta^2=.03$, educational level, Wilks's $\lambda=.96$, $F(27,1347)=0.66$, $p=.91$, $\eta^2=.01$, housing condition, Wilks's $\lambda=.99$, $F(9,461)=0.66$, $p=.75$, $\eta^2=.01$, working status, Wilks's $\lambda=.99$, $F(9,461)=0.62$, $p=.78$, $\eta^2=.01$, and age, Wilks's $\lambda=.97$, $F(9, 461)=1.32$, $p=.03$.

Structural Equation Model

The measurement model showed a good fit for the data: $\chi^2(288)=597.51$, $p<.01$, CFI=.97, SRMR=.04, RMSEA=.05 (90% CI: .04, .05). All the factor loadings were statistically significant, with indicators loaded on the assigned latent construct, with a range between .67 and .93. Structural Equation Modelling (SEM) with latent variables was used to test in the second step a model without the associations from parental variables to interpersonal sensitivity and life satisfaction, and results showed good fit to the data, $\chi^2(296)=628.04$, $p<.01$, CFI=.97, SRMR=.05, RMSEA=.05 (90% CI: .04-.05), with positive significance paths from maternal care to relatedness, and from paternal care to autonomy, relatedness, and competence. There were also negative significance paths from maternal overprotection to autonomy, relatedness, and competence, and from paternal overprotection to autonomy. In turn, both competence and relatedness were positively associated with life satisfaction and negatively associated with interpersonal sensitivity, while autonomy was exclusively positively associated with life satisfaction. In the third step, full hypothesized model (Figure1) was tested, and results showed good fit to the data, $\chi^2(288)=597.51$, $p<.01$, CFI=.97, SRMR=.04, RMSEA=.05 (90% CI: .04-.05), confirming most the significance paths of the previous model with the exception of the paths from relatedness to life satisfaction and interpersonal sensitivity that dropped to not significance. Furthermore,

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3 results showed also positive associations from maternal overprotection to interpersonal sensitivity, and from paternal
4 overprotection and paternal care to life satisfaction. In the fourth step a multigroup with gender as group variables was
5 conducted and the fit indices of the unconstrained model $\chi^2(576)=943.36$, $p<.01$, CFI=.962, did not significantly differ
6 from the constrained model, $\chi^2(602)=970.72$, $p<.01$, CFI=.962, indicating that the structural associations were similar
7 for males and females, $\Delta\chi^2(26)=27.36$, $p=.39$, $\Delta\text{CFI}<.001$.

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11 Finally, the full hypothesized model (Figure2) controlling for the background variables was tested and results showed
12 adequate fit for the data: $\chi^2(378)=715.93$, $p<.01$, CFI=.97, SRMR=.04, RMSEA=.04 (90% CI: .04-.05). Examination
13 of direct effects (supplement Material Table2) have shown that all the paths of the full hypothesized model tested in the
14 third step remain significant after the control of the background variables. Examination of the association between
15 background and study variables have shown that the need for autonomy was negatively associated with working status.
16 The need for competence was negatively associated with gender, and housing condition, while it was positively
17 associated with education level. Life Satisfaction was negatively associated with age. Examination of indirect
18 association (supplement Material Table3) have shown association from maternal overprotection to life satisfaction
19 through the need of autonomy, from maternal overprotection to life satisfaction through the need of competence, from
20 paternal overprotection to life satisfaction through the need of autonomy, from paternal care to life satisfaction through
21 the need of autonomy, and from paternal care to life satisfaction through the need of competence.
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Discussion

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37 In the present study, we examined the relationships between parental bonding, need of autonomy, relatedness,
38 and competence, and life satisfaction and interpersonal sensitivity, in a group of Italian emerging adults. The
39 relationship with parents is a factor relevant to needs satisfaction, especially in contexts strongly based on the family as
40 a basic social unit. The Italian context could create an imbalance between the satisfaction of need of relatedness versus
41 autonomy in favour of the first. We therefore assumed that parental bonding may have an influence on offspring
42 wellbeing both directly and indirectly through the mediation of the satisfaction of basic psychological needs. Overall,
43 findings partially confirm the proposed hypothesis. Our data suggest that both direct and indirect effects exist,
44 highlighting unexpected results in terms of differentiation of parental sources.

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53 Results showed that background variables have little effect on the study variables, showing that gender, education
54 level, housing condition, working status and age do not have multivariate effects. Multi-group analyses showed that the
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3 associations between the study variables were similar for males and females. In the full model, some small effects from
4 background variables to the study variables are visible. Specifically, it emerged that subjects without a job reported
5 higher levels of autonomy than participants with a job. To better understand these results, we need to know how many
6 participants do not have a job because they are studying. It is plausible that, in the case of short-term employment or
7 working without a contract, emerging adults find this to be a condition that hinders their societal autonomy. Regarding
8 competence, females reported lower levels than males, confirming their general tendency to have lower levels of self-
9 esteem and self-efficacy. Participants who lived with their family of origin reported higher levels of competence than
10 participants who had left their family homes, suggesting that change brought about new challenges that caused
11 insecurity. Higher education levels were associated with higher levels of competence, confirming that academic
12 experience provides resources not just in the working domain, but also life in general. Finally, the negative association
13 between age and life satisfaction suggests that the difficulties of definitively entering adulthood caused by uncertainty
14 about the future could create an increase of life dissatisfaction over time. However, considering the weak and mixed
15 effects of the background variables in this study, these comments need to be taken with extreme caution. An
16 interesting aspect from preliminary differences between participants of paternal and maternal rating of parenting
17 showed that maternal ratings are higher for both care and over-protection. This result clearly showed that mothers seem
18 to be more involved in the lives of emerging adults, independently from the use of positive or negative parental
19 practice. This is in line with the cultural background of the Italian family that still has an implicit structure that see
20 mothers with more responsibility for the education of children.

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22 We speculated that parental high warmth and low over-protection could help the satisfaction of the three basic
23 needs of autonomy, relatedness, and competence, and positively affect life satisfaction, and negatively affect
24 interpersonal sensitivity. Overall, these findings confirm that parental care is a form of need-supportive behaviour that
25 is related with wellbeing, while over-protection could be considered a form of need-thwarting behaviour and confirm
26 the universalist claim of SDT (Ryan and Deci 2017). Some differences are visible between the paternal and maternal
27 roles, suggesting interplay between parents. Specifically, our findings show that paternal care promotes the satisfaction
28 of all three needs, while maternal care promotes the satisfaction of autonomy and relatedness but not of competence.
29 This result could be interpreted according to the literature suggesting that, in two-parent families, the nature and type of
30 involvement of parents is a gendered set of tasks (Videon 2005), although not with dissimilar characteristics (Nelson et
31 al., 2011). Although both parents seem have a relevant role in supporting the needs satisfaction (as shown by the
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correlation analyses), our results suggest that the father has a more pronounced role in satisfying the need for competence. The results relating to indirect effects enhance this data.

Second, our data show direct effects only from the father (the direct impact of the relationship with the mother is not significant) to life satisfaction. Our findings suggest a positive (albeit moderate) impact of both paternal care and overprotection on the life satisfaction of offspring. This result could support literature, when highlighting the fathers' unique direct contribution to children's psychological wellbeing (Videon 2005). The effect of paternal care on life satisfaction is in line with previous studies revealing that, during emerging adulthood, parental bonding characterized by care has a positive impact on wellbeing, leading to greater self-esteem and emotional wellbeing (Love and Thomas 2014). The importance of a mother's influence seems to be marked by the impact of her overprotection on interpersonal sensitivity. If during the transition to adulthood the mother shows a tendency to employ a form of overprotection on children, this induces an increase in insecurity. Another aspect needing attention is the direct positive relationship between paternal overprotection and life satisfaction. This unexpected result should be taken with caution, because it could be considered a suppressive effect. As indicated in the correlation table, parental over-protection and life satisfaction have a negative correlation that becomes positive only in the full model. This result could also suggest that when controlling for the effect of the other parental practices and for the beneficial effects of psychological basic needs satisfaction, paternal protection could be considered a form of parental monitoring of offspring activities and not a controlling parenting behaviour, especially when youth are co-resident and/or economically dependent on family, as shown by other studies on the Italian cultural context (Liga et al. 2020). In other words, over-protection could include not only some aspects of typical intrusiveness of parental psychological control (which negatively correlates with adjustment), but also some aspects of the monitoring of the offspring's activities typical of behavioural control (which correlates positively with adjustment; Grolnick and Pomerantz 2009). The co-presence of these two opposite effects in the relationship with life satisfaction could have led the behavioural control effect to emerge after controlling for the effect of basic psychological needs, generally more directly frustrated by the effects of parental psychological control. Rodríguez-Meirinhos et al. (2019) showed indeed that parental monitoring could be perceived by offspring as a form of care and attention for their wellbeing (Hamza and Willoughby 2011).

Our findings show that the satisfaction of both autonomy and competence could directly improve life satisfaction for emerging adults. Results confirm the hypothesized centrality of competence for emerging adult wellbeing and interpersonal sensitivity. According to our data, the frustration of the need for competence makes young

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3 people more vulnerable. In a phase of development in which the most important domains for identity development are
4 work and love (see Special Issue Emerging Adulthood, 2014, Vol. 2(1)), and in which social expectations tend towards
5 the acquisition of achievements both in the workplace and in sentiment, not feeling capable of pursuing one's goals can
6 induce feelings of insecurity and lack of assertiveness in building one's life within society.
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10 Another relevant aspect is the association between autonomy and wellbeing, putting relevance on how
11 autonomy represents a key element for life satisfaction in this period of development. Socio-economic structural
12 conditions do not allow the acquisition of economic and housing independence of young people creating new relational
13 modalities between parents and children (Aleni Sestito and Sica 2014), which could promote wellbeing, if based on the
14 support of autonomy.
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18 Finally, even if in the full model the association between the need for relatedness, interpersonal sensitivity and
19 life satisfaction is not statistically significant, we must not consider the need for relatedness less important than the
20 other two needs. SDT studies have clearly shown that all three needs are indispensable and that the thwarting of only
21 one of these needs can have profound repercussions on the individual. Examining the Pearson product-moment
22 correlation matrix, we find that the need for relatedness shows a positive correlation with life satisfaction and a
23 negative one with interpersonal sensitivity, while in the full model, the relationships of the need of relatedness with life
24 satisfaction and interpersonal sensitivity were marginally, suggesting the strength of the directionality of the
25 association. A possible explanation of the weaker association of the need for relatedness with these outcome variables
26 could be due to the greater role that relatedness might play for emerging adults in other aspects of their lives not
27 considered in this study, such as peer relationships and free-time activities.
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31 Overall, overprotection by both mother and father negatively predicts needs, while care by both mother and
32 father positively predicts needs, in line with previous research (Aleni Sestito and Sica 2014). However, the direct effect
33 result (direct positive relationship between paternal control and life satisfaction) should be taken into consideration.
34 Our results support the idea that maternal and paternal influences should be jointly examined (McKinney and Renk
35 2008).
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38 *Limitations, Future Research Directions, and Conclusions*

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40 Although the present study reveals several important findings, some limitations need to be acknowledged. The
41 study was cross-sectional, hence it is not possible to assess the true direction of relationships between variables.
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45 Future studies should use longitudinal designs, representative samples, person-oriented, and should compare
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3 emerging adulthood with other life periods, to assess whether the importance of parental figures for the satisfaction of
4 basic needs and life satisfaction changes over time. Finally, we only examined traditional families with two parents;
5 other forms of parenting relationships must be compared, as well as cross-cultural studies focused on traditional
6 parental roles. In light of our results, an interesting aspect to research would be the relationship with the father during
7 emerging adulthood (Schwartz and Finley 2006). It seems important to re-examine the relationship between fathers and
8 their offspring regarding support for competence and autonomy during the transition to adulthood.
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Declaration of Conflicting Interests

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Tables

Table1 – Descriptive Analysis and Correlations

| | Min | Max | M | SD | Skew | Kurt | α | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|------------------------------|------|------|------|------|-------|------|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. Paternal Care | 1.00 | 4.00 | 2.96 | .78 | -.63 | -.41 | .94 | | | | | | | | |
| 2. Paternal Overprotection | 1.00 | 3.50 | 1.56 | .52 | 1.13 | .97 | .84 | - | | | | | | | |
| 3. Maternal Care | 1.00 | 4.00 | 3.26 | .68 | -1.02 | .36 | .93 | .34** | - | | | | | | |
| 4. Maternal Overprotection | 1.00 | 3.60 | 1.67 | .55 | 1.03 | .70 | .84 | | .39** | - | | | | | |
| 5. Autonomy | 1.25 | 5.00 | 3.84 | .79 | -.80 | .33 | .88 | .32** | | .26** | - | | | | |
| 6. Relatedness | 1.50 | 5.00 | 4.25 | .72 | -1.13 | .77 | .88 | .38** | | .37** | | -.50** | | | |
| 7. Competence | 1.00 | 5.00 | 3.80 | .89 | -.81 | .18 | .92 | .24** | | .27** | | .63** | .51** | | |
| 8. Life Satisfaction | 1.00 | 7.00 | 4.49 | 1.33 | -.26 | -.48 | .88 | .31** | | .33** | | .59** | .46** | .56** | |
| 9. Interpersonal Sensitivity | 1.39 | 3.83 | 2.56 | .42 | -.04 | .01 | .89 | | .20** | | .32** | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | .19** | | .19** | | .35** | .36** | .39** | .26** |

Note: N = 497; * p < .05; **p < .01

Figure 1

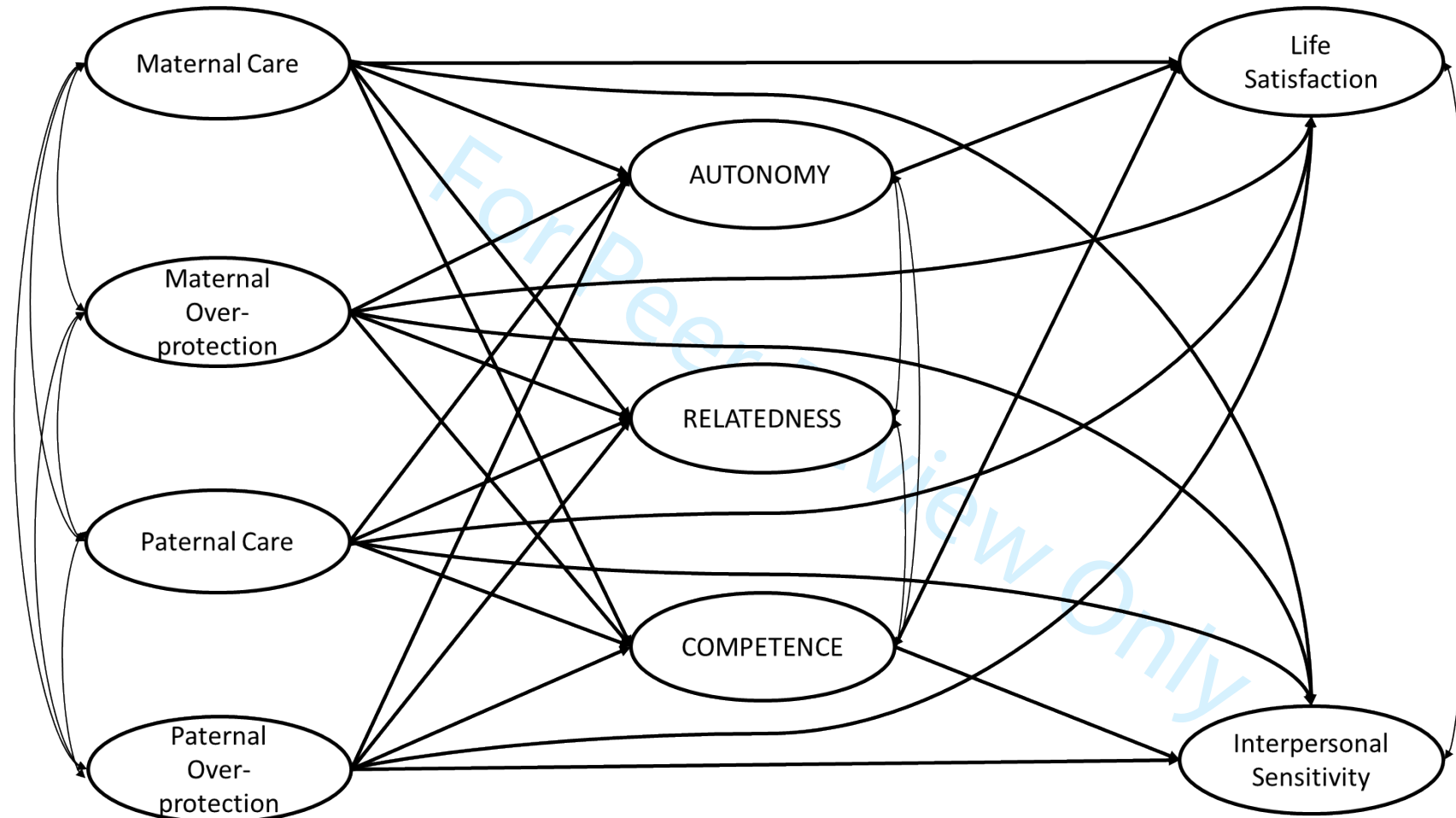


Figure 2

