



Structural Model of Causal Relationships between Self -esteem, Social Support and Cognitive Failures among Abused Women

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Abstract

The present study aims at uncovering the best structural model for explaining relationships among the study variables of: women abuse and social support (as independent variables), self-esteem, and cognitive failures (as dependent variables). The study also aimed at identifying the nature of the differences in the degrees of women abuse according to the differences of (age, educational level, marital status, and work of women). The sample consisted of (202) women who had been abused in all its forms (physical, psychological, sexual, economic), and their ages ranged from (18-40) years old with an average age of (25.27), and a twist standard (48.7), belonging to different social and educational levels, and from workers and non-workers women. The researcher used the following scales: women abuse scale, self-esteem scale, social support scale, and a modified version of the cognitive failures scale, prepared by Broadbent et al, 1982, and translated and modified by the researcher. Study results indicate that the study variables form a structural model that explains the relationships among these variables. There were negative direct effects of women abuse on self-esteem, while positive direct effects of women abuse were found on cognitive failures. There were also negative direct effects of social support on women abuse, and positive direct effects of social support on self-esteem were also found. Statistically significant differences were also found in the degrees of women abuse according to (age, educational level, marital status, and work of women). It was found out that older women are more likely exposed to abuse than younger women, less educated women are more likely to abuse than more educated women, married women are more likely to abuse than unmarried, and workers women are more likely to abuse than non-workers women.

The key words: structural model, women abuse, abused women, self-esteem, social support, cognitive failures).