

Correlation between impulsiveness and suicidal ideation among youth

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Abstract: The probability of F-to- enter is a test of additional predictive value of a variable taking into account for other variables already entered. Table 6 shows the results of stepwise regression analysis for the dependent measure suicidal ideation in the sample of youth. The cohesion and verbal aggression jointly accounts for 10% of the variance ($R^2=.10$) in suicidal ideation faced by the youth. Results indicated that two significant predictors of suicidal ideation are cohesion and hopelessness. The cohesion being most pertinent predictor of suicide ideation, it entered in the equation at step one. The R for this variable equal to .25 and $R^2=.06$. F entering being, 14.96, it is significant at .001 probability level. It indicates that family environment is very strong predictor of suicidal ideation among youth. The physical aggression is a measure of Aggression to be another potent predictor which was entered at step two, multiple R increased to .32 ($R^2=.10$) with the entry of physical aggression in the equation after cohesion. The F ratio computed for the significance of multiple R, at step two, equal to 12.37, which is significant at a probability less than .001. Hence it indicates that the physical aggression is also a strong predictor of suicidal ideation.

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Introduction:

The word 'suicide' first used by Sr Thomas Brown 1642 in his "Religiomedici" has evoked a variety of reactions in public minds. These reactions vary from anger, distress, ridicule, anxiety, tension, fear, sadness, and stigma. Suicide means, "an intentional determination to end one's life, an unexpected way of death, where the willingness to die originate with in the person and there is the presence of known or unknown causes to end one's life". Suicide occurs rarely in childhood and early adolescence, but beginning at about age of 15, the suicide rate increases dramatically. Suicide is a very serious issue. Far too often, adolescent end their lives suicide. Adolescent suicides in the U.S. have tripled since then 1950, and suicide now ranks as the 3rd leading cause of death in this age group. Each year, 250,000 adolescent attempt suicides, and 8% -10% of adolescents in the U.S. attempt suicide at sometime in their life (Horowitz et al. 2001). In another survey of 300 students, as many as 20% admitted that they performed suicidal behavior in the past year (Rubenstein et al. 1980). While males are about three times more likely to commit suicide than female, whereas female are more likely to attempt suicide than males. The explanation for this is that males use more lethal methods when attempting suicide, such as shooting, while females use more passive methods, such as sleep pills.

Estimate indicate that six to ten suicide attempts occur for every suicide in the general population. For

adolescents it as high as fifty attempts for every life taken. As many as two of every three college students have thought about suicide on at least on occasion. In one study, such thoughts began to surface in a serious vein at about 9 years of age and increased thereafter (Bolger and other 1989). Presents suicide rate for the populations as a whole as well as the rates for teenagers' between 1960 and 1988 the suicide rate in adolescents rose from 3.6 to 11.3 per 100,000 population as increases of 200% compared with a general population increase of 17%. In fact, in 1990 when approximately 12.5% of the population was 65 or over, the age group accounted for 20.6% of the suicide (Rosenthal & Rosenthal, 1984).

Materials and methods:

Sample:

The sample for the study consisted of 225 youth selected from various districts of Haryana. The age range of subjects varies from 17 to 25 years (mean =21.5). The selected sample consisted of participants from all walks of society from low to middle socio economic status. Only those participants were included in sample that had give consent to participant.

Measures:

The measures were selected in accordance with the aims of the study. While selecting the tools, psychometric properties, nature of sample, competence of the investigator in scoring and interpretation were taken into consideration. The

following measuring tools are used in the present study such as Scale for Suicide Ideation (Beck, Kovacs, & Weissman, 1979), Aggression Questionnaire (Buss & Perry, 1922), Hopelessness Scale (Beak, Weissman, Lester & Trexler, 1974), Impulsiveness Scale (Rai & Sharma, 1988) and Family Environment Scale (Bhatia & Chadha, 1993).

Results and Discussion:

The correlation analysis provides an opportunity with little ambiguity to assess the importance of each of the predictors to be the overall relationship. But the more complicated and important goal might be to investigate the relationship between dependent measure and some predictors with the effect of other predictors statistically eliminated. Here, multiple regression has been employed to find a subset of independent variables that is useful in predicting the dependent variable and to eliminate those that do not

provide additional prediction to the independent variables already in the equation. The model that suits this aim is stepwise multiple regression.

The stepwise regression equation starts out empty and independent variables are added in steps, one at a time, provided they meet the statistical criteria for entry (F with $<.05$). At each step, the independent variable not in the equation with a smallest probability of F is entered. The independent variables already in the equation may be removed if they lose significant contribution towards multiple R^2 . The method terminates when no more variables are eligible for inclusion or removal. The stepwise regression is the suggested path to the prediction equation when one is interested in identifying a subset of potential predictors and eliminating those which do not provide additional prediction to the already entered (Tabachnick & Fidell, 1989).

Table 1: Summary Of Step-Wise Multiple Regression Analysis

Step	Variable	R	R Square	F	Sig.
1	COH	.25	.06	14.96	.001
2	PHY	.32	.10	12.37	.001

The stepwise regression was applied parameters; p of F -to-enter= $.05$, p of F -to-remove= $.01$, and minimum tolerance= $.001$.

The probability of F -to-enter is a test of additional predictive value of a variable taking into account for other variables already entered. Table 6 shows the results of stepwise regression analysis for the dependent measure suicidal ideation in the sample of youth. The cohesion and verbal aggression jointly accounts for 10% of the variance ($R^2=.10$) in suicidal ideation faced by the youth. Results indicated that two significant predictors of suicidal ideation are cohesion and hopelessness. The cohesion being most pertinent predictor of suicide ideation, it entered in the equation at step one. The R for this variable equal to $.25$ and $R^2=.06$. F entering being, 14.96 , it is significant at $.001$ probability level. It indicates that family environment is very strong predictor of suicidal ideation among youth. The physical aggression is a measure of Aggression to be another potent predictor which was entered at step two, multiple R increased to $.32$ ($R^2=.10$) with the entry of physical aggression in the equation after cohesion. The F ratio computed for the significance of multiple R , at step two, equal to 12.37 , which is significant at a probability less than $.001$. Hence it indicates that the physical aggression is also a strong predictor of suicidal ideation.

The results of stepwise regression analysis revealed that the linear combination of cohesion and physical aggression accounts significant proportion of

variance (10%) in suicidal ideation among youth. Here it is pertinent to note that despite significant correlation with hostility, anger, expressiveness, conflict, acceptance and caring, action - orientation, organization and control did not join the set of the potent contributors of suicidal ideation.

Thus, the results of stepwise regression analysis have clearly revealed that two of the independent variables (i.e. cohesion and physical aggression) contribute significantly to the prediction of suicidal ideation among youth. The predictor's cohesion and physical aggression jointly accounts 10% in suicidal ideation faced by youths.

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