

Sex Differences in Mental Health among 13-15 Year Old Adolescents in Iran and Finland: A Comparative Study

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CV'YWh]jYg. To investigate sex differences in mental health in 13-15 year-old adolescents in Iran and Finland, in order to explore potential cultural influence on sex differences in mental health during early adolescence

students had a high probability of mental disorders. Thus, the figures of the studies of both Abedian et al. and of Rostami and Bahrain provide very similar results, suggesting that roughly 10% of Teheran University students had psychological problems of the time of the studies. Izadnia, Amiri, Ghorban Jahromi and Hmidi [12] found that mental health issues play an important role in suicidal ideation among students of the Tehran University.

There may, however, be great variation between the frequencies of

The analysis revealed that the Iranian sample scored higher on all seven measures. This result appeared illogical, since five of them measured negative symptoms, while the two last ones (body satisfaction and self-esteem) measured positive characteristics. Rather

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Table 2 Results from a 2x2 multivariate analysis of variance (MANOVA) with country and sex as independent variables, age as covariate and the seven scales of the study as dependent variables. The analysis is based on standardized scores (N=1,292). *) F=Finnish.

Analysis of sex differences in regard to mental health in Iran and Finland.

A new two-way multivariate analysis of variance (MANOVA) was conducted with country (Iran vs. Finland) and sex (boys vs. girls) as independent variables and eating problems, depression, anxiety, hostility, somatic symptoms, body satisfaction and self-esteem as dependent variables. Age was kept as a covariate, since there was a significant age difference between the Iranian and the Finnish sample. The

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