Eating Attitudes, Emotional Regulation, and Psychological Distress Among

Pakistani Young Adult Women



Submitted by

Mubashra Mukhtar

(FA19-BPY-026)

Supervised by

Dr. Shameem Fatima

Co supervisor

Ms Amna Naveed

Department of Humanities, COMSATS University Islamabad Lahore Campus

Eating Attitudes, Emotional Regulation, and Psychological Distress Among Pakistani Young Adult Women

MUBASHRA MUKHTAR

FA19-BPY-060

Session (2019-2023)

BS Psychology

A thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the

Degree of BS Psychology

DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES

COMSATS UNIVERSITY ISLAMABAD, LAHORE CAMPUS

Research Completion Certificate

It is certified that the research work in this title "Eating Attitudes Emotional Regulation and Psychological Distress among young adult women " has been completed and carried out by Ms. Mubashra Mukhtar, Registration No: FA19-BPY-026: student of BS Psychology, session 2019-2023. The study is an independent research work carried out under instructions and deliberation.

Dated

Dr. Shameem fatima

(Supervisor)

External Examiner

Dr. Musferah

(Head of department)

Dedication

With the name of Allah, the most Beneficial and the most Merciful. My sincere gratefulness goes to my beloved parents, for their prayers and praise and support. I will always appreciate all your struggles and hard work for me. I will further dedicate this to my supervisor Dr. Shameem fatima, who helped me, supported me, and encouraged me to complete my thesis. Last but not least my friends, siblings who were always supporting and encouraged me in this journey.

Acknowledgment

In the name of ALLAH who is the most merciful and most beneficial, first, I like to express my gratitude to ALLAH Almighty for letting me through all the difficulties. I have experienced your guidance day by day. You are the one who let me finish my degree. I will keep on trusting you for my future.

I would like to acknowledge and give my warmest thanks to my supervisor (Dr. Shameem fatima) Who made this work possible. Her guidance and advice carried me through allthe stages of writing my project. Her supervision and guidance have shaped this thesis work to be completed perfectly. I am thankful that I had the opportunity to work with you. It was one of the best experiences of my life and I am grateful for that. I am very thankful to Miss amna naveed for her kind words of encouragement. She was very cooperative throughout the research.

I would also like to give special thanks to my parents and my siblings as a whole for their continuous support and understanding when undertaking my research and writing my project. Your prayer for me was what sustained me this far.

I sincerely express my gratitude to COMSATS University Islamabad for providing me an opportunity to do research work.

MUBASHRA MUKHTAR

1 Introduction

Eating attitudes	1
Emotional regulation	1
Depression, stress& anxiety	2
Relationship between eating attitude and emotional regulation	3
Relationship between eating attitudes and psychological distress	
Relationship between emotional regulation and psychological	4

2 Literature Review

3

Literature review	7
The Rationale of the Study	11
The Objective of the Study	12
Hypotheses of the Study	12
Methodology	
Research Design	13
Participants and Sampling Strategy	13
Exclusion/inclusion criteria	13
Operational Definition of Study Variables	14
Eating attitudes	14
Emotional regulation	14

	Psychological distress	14
	Tools of Assessment	15
	Demographic Questionnaire	15
	Eating attitudes scale	15
	Emotional regulation scale	15
	DASS21	15
	Procedure	16
	Ethical consideration	16
	Statistical analysis	16
	Results	
	Analysis Plan	18
	Preliminary Analysis	18
	Descriptive Analysis	19
	Correlation Analysis	21
	Regression Analysis	23
5	Discussion	30
	Limitations and suggestion	33
	Implications	34
	Conclusion	35
	References	36

4

List of Appendices

Appendix A informed consent	42
Appendix B demographic information	44
Appendix C EAT26	46
Appendix D ERQ	52
Appendix E DASS21	57
Appendix F plagiarism report	62

IX

List of tables

Page No.	Contents
Table 1	
Descriptive statistics of demographic var	iables
Table 2	
Descriptive statistics of study variables	
Table 3	26
Correlation between Study Variable	
Table 4	

Regression analysis

Abstract

This study was designed to explore the link between eating attitudes emotional regulation and psychological distress among young women. In this study, the sample consisted of 300 young adult women selected through a convenient sampling technique from different universities in Lahore. The mean age of the sample (*n*=300) was 21.90 years, and the standard deviation was 2.67. The study's total sample comprised 300 young adults. Self-report measures including the demographic questionnaire, eating attitude test, emotional regulation, and psychological distress scale were used to assess the study variables. The results of the current study revealed that eating attitude has a significant correlation with depression, anxiety, and stress. There was a positive and significant correlation between preferred junk food and stress. The overall results showed that eating attitude was a significant predictor of depression, anxiety, and stress. *Keywords:* eating attitude, emotional regulation, psychological distress, preferred junk food, preferred frizzy food, preferred healthy food, number of meals.