

## Personality Traits and the Social Behaviour Types among Female Victims of Family Violence in Jordan

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### Abstract

This study sought to explore the personality traits and social behaviour among female victims of family violence in Jordan. In addition to finding out the most prevalent personality traits and social behaviour types among the participant of the study, for data collection; The sample of the study consisted of (74) females victims selected as non-probability sampling based on the experience, work, and knowledge of the researchers in the south region of Jordan. A scale has been prepared by the researcher to measure the participants' personality traits, furthermore, the social behaviour scale given by Carolyn Hoessler was used. Findings showed a neuroticism trait is the most prevalent trait among female victims of family violence in Jordan. And the psychoticism trait has the lowest prevalent trait among female victims of family violence. The findings also presented the submissive social behaviour type as the most prevalent type among female victims of family violence. Findings also showed a positive significant relationship between the personality trait and submissive, quarrelsome, and dominant social behaviour types. Finally, the findings did not detect any statistically significant differences in traits of neuroticism, lying, extraversion, and psychoticism regarding the effect of the participant's age. The finding showed significant deference's on submissive, dominant, and agreeable social behaviour types, and finally finding did not detect any significant differences in quarrelsome social behaviour types.

**Keywords:** Personality traits, social behaviour, family violence, female victims, victims in Jordan.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

A family serves as the foundation from which its role emerges (transformational stage), always maintaining its reputation as the highest priority. Numerous areas, including commitment, wants, goals, and interpersonal interactions, reflect this emphasis. In the society of Jordan, men are granted authority over women and children as well as privileges, which makes use of violence against females or children as a form of discipline is accepted in Jordanian society and supported by social and cultural standards (Btoush& Haj-Yahia, 2008).

In the last decades, family violence was not a significant phenomenon demanding attention on a global scale. One can only fathom the level of suffering and misery endured by domestic abuse victims during this time, who have suffered in secret and with little to no public awareness of their condition (Fasasi&Ayodele, 2020). However, things started to change in the 1980s as a result of females organizing themselves locally and globally to protest abuse and violence against women. In a similar vein, research revealed that 35% of females have ever suffered family violence (Oguntayo, Oyeleke, John-Oguntayo&Ajayi-Hutchful, 2020).

Violence against females is widespread and affects families of all social levels, racial backgrounds, ages, and religions. According to the United Nations, any behaviour of gender-based violent action which also causes sexual, physical, or psychological distress or suffering to females is considered violence against females (Pereira, Azeredo, Moreira, Brandão& Almeida, 2020). This consists of threats of such acts, coercion, or arbitrary deprivations of liberty, whether they take place in private or public life. family violence, or the physical, psychological, and/or sexual abuse of females by their partner violence or ex-partners partners, is the most common form of violence against women in the world (Nmadu et al, 2021).

Family violence has been linked to an increased chance for females to experience psychological issues and psychiatric diseases. In addition, family violence can have a variety of effects on females' emotions and social behaviours, including minimizing the abuse, neglecting, emotional avoidance, impulsivity, aggression, helplessness, anger, and anxiety, as well as eating and sleeping issues, the use of psychoactive substances, and suicidal behaviour (Reyal, Perera & Guruge, 2022). A female is evaluated by how she behaves and, what traits constitute a part of her personality, essentially, personality traits are referred to as the combination of set responses, values, patterns of thought, characteristics, and views, which are relatively stable aspects of a female (Forrester, Tashchian & Shore, 2016), on another hand social behaviour is how those females communicate to others in their actions, which can be explained by what they do, while the personality can be summarized by how they feel, think and why they WHY we tend to communicate in a certain way (Sawmong, 2022). Traits are comparatively lasting features that affect females' behaviour in a variety of contexts and are used to explain personality. The qualities of personality that explain consistency in behavior, such as introversion, friendliness, conscientiousness, honesty, and helpfulness, are crucial (Sahin, Karadag & Tuncer, 2019). Social behaviour is a case in which a female is engaged in each social environment, the female and the environment exert a reciprocal effect on one another, as female changes could cause, and be caused by, changes in the outside conditions (Gentile et al, 2009). The social behaviour of interest can be explained as any alteration in a female status over time, including an overt reaction, brain modulation, etc... (Briley & Tucker-Drob, 2014). This again can be connected to two key explanatory factors: a perception of the females' condition at the time (to know how a female will change one needs to know how this female is) and a depiction of the environment as it is at the time (to know how a female will change one needs to know what surround her). The personal dimension makes a distinction between social behaviour factors that can be attributed to female unique traits and those that are related to the particulars of the environment the female is engaging with (Zhao et al, 2012).

Several research focused on the effect of social behaviour on personal traits: these are habitual behaviour styles, emotions, and thoughts that are connectively stable over time. Inter-individual trait variability has been frequently cited in the literature as a potent explanation for behavioural variations in the population, despite its uncertain cause. Pereira, Azeredo, Moreira, Brandão & Almeida (2020) discussed the origins and effects of an abusive relationship while exploring the personality traits found in victims of intimate partner violence. Following the Cochrane Collaboration guidelines, studies with a focus on female victims were retrieved from various databases. Ten studies from manual search were among the 31 documents from the 87 that were obtained that were retained for additional analysis and thought to be relevant for inclusion.

According to the findings, women are more likely to become victims when they are economically reliant, lack social support, and feel in danger when they are exposed to violence as children. Consequences include long-lasting physical and psychological aftereffects. The victim may continue to be in an abusive relationship due to certain personality features. The schizoid, schizotypal, avoidant, borderline, self-destructive, and paranoid personality scales gave greater scores to females who had experienced violence. Also, results showed that female victims often display traits including low self-esteem, social and family isolation, dependency, and needing to be appeased.

Fasasi & Ayodele (2020) investigated the connection between personality type and family violence experience among married women in southwest Nigeria. The sample of the study consists of 400 participants, results reported that 40% of married women in the study area had experienced violence in one form or another. However, sexual violence (23.2%), followed by physical violence (37.0%), and verbal/emotional violence (60.0%), had the highest occurrence rate. The results showed that personality traits were an important predictor of family violence against females. Compared to women with the extraversion personality, females with agreeableness, neuroticism, and conscientiousness personality were more likely to experience family abuse. Finally, the personality trait of openness did not significantly influence the likelihood of experiencing family violence. According to the survey, domestic violence is quite pervasive, with verbal and emotional abuse against women continuing to be the most common type. Women's personalities played a significant role in predicting their experience with domestic abuse.

Yalch, Rickman, Good and Levendosky (2020) explored the relationship between the five-factor model's personality traits-namely, conscientiousness, agreeableness, neuroticism of extraversion, openness, and

judgments of intimate partner violence. employing a Bayesian method of multiple regression, 241 young adult females in college who had suffered intimate relationship abuse were selected. Results presented that, in addition to the effect of intimate partner violence on severity, Agreeability, Extraversion, and Neuroticism predicted various forms of assessments. The results of the study provide clarification for earlier research on the impact of personality characteristics in the reaction to intimate partner violence and offer possibilities for further study. Penado et al, (2019) examine the personality traits among adolescents who are exposed to family violence. The sample consisted of 430 participants (229 female & 201 male) aged between 14 to 19 years. The findings indicate that while boys have higher personality grades on the scales that indicate difficulties with internal behaviour (anxiety and depression), girls have higher personality grades on the categories that indicate problems with external behaviour (drug use and antisocial behaviour). The findings indicate that as grades on the violence scale committed by girls rise, there are predictive weights in aggression traits, antisocial characteristics, and mania. Said, Idris & Hussain (2018) investigated instructors' perspectives on the connection between social behaviour and academic achievement. The investigation was carried out in 15 schools that were chosen at random. Students in the ninth grade from both the scientific and the arts streams were divided into three groups according to the study's design: high performers, average, and below average. As a research tool for the study, a questionnaire of 25 items was created. The information was gathered, tabulated, deciphered, and statistically evaluated. Results presented that among scientific students, those who performed well academically (67%), those who performed averagely (63%), and those who performed poorly (46%), respectively, exhibited good social behaviour (66%) and academic performance (62%). While academic achievement for top achievers in the arts was (51%), good behaviour for average and below average kids was (40%) and academic performance was (50%) and (44%) accordingly.

As a result of his supremacy over social and material resources, the Male has the authority and power over the female. Women are viewed as weak, subservient, passionate, and peaceful in contrast to men who are seen as powerful, autonomous, impassioned, and violent. In a Jordanian family, males hold higher status, while women and children serve as their servants. It is still true that a husband is regarded as the household's supreme ruler, in charge of all possessions and members. Al-Badayneh (2012) reported that 45 % of Jordanian females experienced and 55 % have witnessed violence throughout their childhood. Almost 98 % of the participants of the study were exposed to at least one style of violence. female must obey her family and husband by the law and social convention. Family violence has been studied, however, despite the high prevalence of domestic violence in Jordan, most of these studies have concentrated on the demographic, socioeconomic, household, and cultural characteristics of the victims.

Littles of studies have been written about the relationship between family violence experience personality traits, and social behavior, particularly among female family violence victims in Jordan. Despite studies linking personality traits to attitudes toward and experiences with family violence. This study is to explore personality traits and social behaviour among female family violence victims in Jordan. This study is very helpful for treatment and intervention with family violence victims in Jordan. By highlighting particular social behavior, personality traits, cognitive schemas, or potential diagnoses that are most prevalent among these victims and increase their vulnerability to staying in abusive relationships. The current study aims to examine the personality traits and the social behaviour among female family violence victims in Jordan, in addition, to find out the most prevalent personality trait and social behaviour types among female victims of family violence.

### **Questions**

This study is designed as a step to answer the following questions:

1. What is the most prevalent personality trait among female victims of family violence in Jordan?
2. What is the most prevalent social behaviour type among female victims of family violence in Jordan?
3. Is there a relationship between personality traits and social behaviour type among female victims of family violence in Jordan?
4. Does the age of participants affect personality traits and social behaviour type among female victims of family violence in Jordan?

## 2. METHODS AND MATERIALS

The study has been conducted in the South region of Jordan. The sample was chosen because of the variety of their populations, which allowed for better comparisons in terms of cultural and religious traits and their influences on women's attitudes about family violence. According to a report from the Jordan family protection and Juvenile department, the cities have also been found to have one of the highest prevalence rates of family violence in the region. The sample of the study consisted of (74) female victims selected as non-probability sampling based on the experience, work, and knowledge of the researchers in the southern region of Jordan. The researchers have been interviewed the participants of the study at their home residences. After summarizing the objectives and goals of the study were explained to them, also they were informed that the information and data will remain confidential and used for scientific research purposes only.

## 3. TOOLS

First, the personal traits scale given by the researchers consists of (29) items divided to explain four personality traits: Neuroticism (8) items, psychoticism (8) items, extraversion (8) items, and lying (5) items. Having reviewed several, articles, studies, and websites. In the first step, the concept of personality traits has been identified in terms of neuroticism, psychoticism, extraversion, and lying dimensions. These factors or components of personality traits were found predominantly in most definitions of personality. Later on, the items were gathered to reflect each of the characteristics that define personality traits. Initially, (31) items were formulated reflecting dimensions, the scale was evaluated and checked by professors in psychology, and their comments and suggestions incorporated terms that items suitable to measure the purpose of the study, easy to understand, and open to one explanation were selected related to neuroticism, psychoticism, extraversion, and lying traits of personality. after analysis, the items by the SPSS program two items have been deleted. Finally, 29 items were kept from the test; each item includes five possible answers, and respondents must choose one of them: *never = 1, very less = 2, seldom = 3, usually = 4, and mostly = 5*). Thus, the maximum grade on the scale is 145 in case the participants select "mostly option" for all items, while the minimum grade of the scale is 29, in case the participants select "never option" for all items.

Second, the social behaviour scale given by (Carolyn Hoessler, 2008) consists of (46) items. The items are asked to assess how often people do different types of interpersonal behaviors. The scale is divided into four dimensions: Dominant (12) items, Submissive (12) items, Agreeable (11) items, and Quarrelsome (11) items. The scale contains five alternative options; responders are required to select one of them: *never = 1, very less = 2, seldom = 3, usually = 4, and mostly = 5*). In terms of the validity and reliability of the scales, the scale was evaluated and checked by professors in psychology. Their comments and suggestions incorporated terms that items suitable to measure the purpose of the study, easy to understand, and open to one explanation were selected related to the purpose of the study. Moreover, Alpha Cronbach has been examined. The scales were administered to 30 females out of the sample twice with intervals of 14 days. The results indicated the internal consistency of personality traits is 0.83 and the social behaviour scale is 0.85.

## 4. RESULT

To find out the most prevalent traits among female victims of family violence in Jordan, an independent sample test has been done. Findings in the below table (1) showed that the Neuroticism trait is the most prevalent trait among female victims of family violence in Jordan. It has ranked first (mean = 3.95, Sig = 0.00). the second most prevalent trait was the lying trait (means = 3.39, sig = 0.00). The psychoticism trait has the lowest prevalent trait among female victims of family violence in Jordan (mean 2.74, sig =0.53). Findings find out statistically significant among female victims of family violence in Jordan at ( $\alpha \leq 0.05$ ) in Neuroticism, lying, and extraversion traits. While the finding did not detect any statistically significant among female victims of family violence in Jordan at ( $\alpha \leq 0.05$ ) in psychoticism traits.

**Table 1:** Independent sample test for personality traits

Personality traits	Mean	St.dev	t	Sig
neuroticism	3.95	0.69	0.77	0.00*
lying	3.39	0.71	0.91	0.00*
extraversion	3.16	0.74	0.97	0.03*
psychoticism	2.74	1.02	1.25	0.53

\*Significant at ( $\alpha \leq 0.05$ )

To examine the most prevalent social behaviour type among female victims of family violence in Jordan, an independent sample test has been run. Findings reported a statistically significant among female victims of family violence in Jordan at ( $\alpha \leq 0.05$ ) in four types of social behavior. Furthermore, findings presented the submissive social behaviour type as the most prevalent type among female victims of family violence (mean = 4.01, Sig = 0.00). Moreover, the quarrelsome social behaviour type was the second most prevalent type among female victims of family violence (means = 3.76, sig = 0.00). Finally, the agreeable social behaviour type has been found the lowest prevalent type among female victims of family violence (mean 3.35, sig = 0.00).

**Table 2** Independent sample test for social behaviour types

Personality traits	Mean	St.dev	t	Sig
submissive	4.01	0.99	1.16	0.00*
quarrelsome	3.76	0.83	1.10	0.00*
dominant	3.58	1.23	0.83	0.00*
agreeable	3.35	0.91	1.15	0.00*

\*Significant at ( $\alpha \leq 0.05$ )

Pearson Correlation Coefficient test has been computed to explore the relationship between personality traits and social behaviour types as self-reported by female victims of family violence. Findings showed a positive significant relationship between the personality trait and submissive, quarrelsome, and dominant social behaviour types. The values of a rating between  $r = 0.206$ ,  $\text{sig} \leq .01$  to  $r = 0.671$ ,  $\text{sig} \leq .05$ . Furthermore, the lying personality trait positively correlated with agreeable social behaviour type,  $r = 0.151$ ,  $\text{sig} \leq .05$ . However, no significant correlation was found between the personality trait of neuroticism, extraversion, and psychoticism.

**Table 3:** Pearson Correlation Coefficient test for personality traits and social behaviour types.

variables	neuroticism	lying	extraversion	psychoticism
submissive	0.337*	0.424*	0.383**	0.275**
quarrelsome	0.671**	0.510*	0.182*	0.412**
dominant	0.583*	0.493*	0.307**	0.206*
agreeable	0.061	0.151**	0.119	0.050

\* Sig at ( $\alpha \leq 0.05$ ) \*\* Sig at ( $\alpha \leq 0.01$ )

Test of One-way ANOVA has been calculated to investigate the effect of participants' age on personality traits and social behaviour types. As shown in table (4) findings did not detect any statistically significant differences in traits of neuroticism, lying, extraversion, and psychoticism regarding the effect of the participant's age. The values of F range between (0.98 to 1.22). Furthermore, As illustrated in the table (5), the finding showed significant deference's on submissive, dominant, and agreeable social behaviour types, and finally finding did not detect any significant differences in quarrelsome social behaviour types.

**Table 4:** One-way ANOVA for the effect of participants' age on personality traits.

Variable	Variance	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Squares	F	Sig
neuroticism	between group	3.85	3	1.30	1.31	0.14
	within group	67.59	70	0.76		
	Total	71.44	73			
lying	between group	2.55	3	1.13	1.22	0.25
	within group	65.32	70	1.22		
	Total	67.87	73			
extraversion	between group	3.47	3	0.36	0.98	0.06
	within group	40.38	70	0.45		
	Total	43.85	73			
psychoticism	between group	4.394	3	0.099	1.21	0.22
	within group	46.52	70	0.23		
	Total	50.92	73			

\* Sig at ( $\alpha \leq 0.05$ )

**Table 5:** One-way ANOVA for the effect of the age of participants on social behaviour types

Variable	Variance	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Squares	F	Sig
submissive	between group	2.02	3	1.09	2.42	0.00*
	within group	65.23	70	0.78		
	Total	67.25	73			
quarrelsome	between group	0.410	3	1.14	0.72	0.87
	within group	58.40	70	0.67		
	Total	58.81	73			
dominant	between group	3.67	3	1.73	2.19	0.00*
	within group	40.18	70	0.55		
	Total	43.85	73			
agreeable	between group	4.00	3	2.00	2.94	0.00*
	within group	34.91	70	0.50		
	Total	38.91	73			

\* Sig at ( $\alpha \leq 0.05$ )

Tukey test for multiple comparisons has been run through the analysis to examine the difference in social behaviour types between the participants. LSD test has been calculated to know the sources of differences, the findings detect a significant difference between the age category (18 to 23 years) and other categories (24 – 29 years), (30 to 35 years), and (more than 35 years). The significance was in favor of the age category (18 to 23 years).

## 5. DISCUSSION

This study is designed to explore the personality traits and social behaviour among female victims of family violence in Jordan. In addition to finding out the most prevalent personality traits and social behaviour types among the participant of the stud. Findings showed a neuroticism trait is the most prevalent trait among female victims of family violence. the second. And the psychoticism trait has the lowest prevalent trait among female

victims of family violence. Other findings did not detect any statistically significant differences in traits of neuroticism, lying, extraversion, and psychoticism regarding the effect of the participant's age. The finding showed significant deference's on submissive, dominant, and agreeable social behaviour types, and finally finding did not detect any significant differences in quarrelsome social behaviour types.

In Jordan, family violence against females is still on the rise. However, this growing tendency suggests that the government and other key parties are not doing enough to stop this heinous act against females in the nation. This is in addition to the weak data, as most of the family violence that occurs in Jordan remains unreported, along with significant cultural and religious variables that have shaped and determined how the perpetrators and victims of family violence are treated. The results of this study showed that roughly most of the females had been victims of family violence. Previous studies have noted the high prevalence rate of this crime.

In a cross-sectional study Pereira, Azeredo, Moreira, Brandão & Almeida (2020) looked at the prevalence of domestic violence against women and discovered significant regional heterogeneity in the prevalence rate, also, the females' victims often display traits including low self-esteem, social and family isolation, dependency, and needing to be appeased. Additionally, this study found that personality traits significantly influenced whether women would experience domestic abuse. Compared to women with the extraversion personality, women with neuroticism, agreeableness, and conscientiousness personality were more likely to experience domestic abuse. This result is consistent with previous

Studies have connected personality traits with attitudes and personal experiences with partner violence, Fasasi and Ayodele's (2020) explored the connection between personality type and family violence experience among married women, the study showed that personality traits were an important predictor of family violence against females. Compared to women with the extraversion personality, females with agreeableness, neuroticism, and conscientiousness personality were more likely to experience family abuse. Finally, the personality trait of openness did not significantly influence the likelihood of experiencing family violence.

In addition, a study by Yalch, Rickman, Good and Levendosky (2020) explored the relationship between the five-factor model's personality traits-namely, conscientiousness, agreeableness, neuroticism of extraversion, openness, and judgments of intimate partner violence. Results presented that, in addition to the effect of intimate partner violence on severity, Agreeability, Extraversion, and Neuroticism predicted various forms of assessments. The results of the study provide clarification for earlier research on the impact of personality characteristics in the reaction to intimate partner violence and offer possibilities for further study. Furthermore, the study by Penado et al, (2019) examined the personality traits among adolescents who are exposed to family violence. The findings indicate that while boys have higher personality grades on the scales that indicate difficulties with internal behaviour (anxiety and depression), girls have higher personality grades on the categories that indicate problems with external behaviour (drug use and antisocial behavior). The findings indicate that as grades on the violence scale committed by girls rise, there are predictive weights in aggression traits, antisocial characteristics, and mania.

Other findings in the current study also presented the submissive social behaviour type as the most prevalent type among female family violence victims in Jordan. Findings showed a positive significant relationship between the personality trait and submissive, quarrelsome, and dominant social behaviour types. Violence causes disorders and affects all levels of a female's personality development, his/her emotional and cognitive spheres, as well as her behavior. One of the negative aspects of family life is the impact of domestic violence on females as witnesses or victims of conflict, Victims' cognitive capacities are impacted by their exposure to violence and abuse. A thorough investigation was carried out by Penado et al, (2019), which included a poll examining the personality traits among adolescents who are exposed to family violence. The findings indicate that while boys have higher personality grades on the scales that indicate difficulties with internal behaviour (anxiety and depression), girls have higher personality grades on the categories that indicate problems with external behaviour (drug use and antisocial behavior). The findings indicate that as grades on the violence scale committed by girls rise, there are predictive weights in aggression traits, antisocial characteristics, and mania.

## 6. CONCLUSION

In the domain of females, the current study unequivocally confirms the link between personality traits, social behavior, and family violence measures. Through an understanding of females' interpersonal requirements,

behaviors, and degrees of satisfaction with interpersonal dynamics, the significant relationships revealed in this research can be used to enhance females' social performance. These findings can aid in predicting who will get along well with others as well as pointing out potential incompatibilities. Psychologists are better equipped to teach females how to understand and accommodate the personalities and behavioral inclinations of others by recognizing differences in interpersonal needs and behaviour as well as personality types. Future studies should examine how personality features, social behavior, and familial violence affect females' decision-making in their society. It ought to investigate how females' decisions to participate in collective decision-making are influenced by their experiences with inclusion, control, and affection. Future studies should look at the relationship between familial violence and the personality of females' social conflict resolution.

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