

A Comparative Study on Ego Integrity, Rejection Sensitivity and Gratitude
among at Home and Institutionalized Older Adults



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01-275182-013

A thesis submitted in the fulfillment of the requirements for the award of the
degree of Doctor of Psychology (Professional Psychology)

Department of Professional Psychology

BAHRIA UNIVERSITY ISLAMABAD

OCTOBER 2020

**A Comparative Study on Ego Integrity, Rejection Sensitivity and
Gratitude among at Home and Institutionalized Older Adults**

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**IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE
DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY**

2020

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Dedicated to my Beloved Parents and Sisters

Acknowledgements

In the name of Allah, the most Gracious and Most Merciful

Alhamdulillah, all praises to Allah (SWT) for the strengths and His blessings in completing this thesis. A great many people have contributed to its production especially Dr. Rizwana. We own our gratitude to all those people who have made this dissertation possible and because of whom our research experience has been one that we shall cherish forever.

Our deepest gratitude is to our supervisor, Miss Ulfat Nisa. We have been amazingly fortunate to have a supervisor who gave us the freedom to explore on our own, and at the same time guidance to recover when our steps faltered. She taught us how to question thoughts and express ideas. Her patience and support helped us to overcome many crises situation and finish this dissertation. We are deeply grateful to her for the long discussions that helped us refine and link ideas. Her insightful comments and constructive criticism at different stages of our research were thought provoking and helped us stay focused.

Finally, our deepest gratitude goes to our family for their unflagging love and unconditional support throughout our life and our studies.

Thank you every one who has contributed his/her part in any way to make this research possible, GOD bless you all!

Rabail Zubair

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Abstract

The present study aims to explore the relationship between ego integrity, rejection sensitivity and gratitude among at home and institutionalized older adults. The study sample includes 150 older adults of age 65-89 years of age. It was hypothesized that there is a relationship between ego integrity, rejection sensitivity and gratitude among study variables. Secondly it was hypothesized that there will be a significant difference among institutionalized and non-institutionalized older adults on the variables of ego integrity, rejection sensitivity and gratitude. Lastly it was hypothesized that demographic variables (Gender, qualification, birth order, socioeconomic status, physical disability and mental illness) vary significantly among study variables (Ego integrity, Rejection sensitivity and Gratitude). Ego integrity was assessed by Brief Generativity and Ego Integrity Questionnaire developed by Vuksanovic et al. (2015). Rejection Sensitivity was measured by Rejection Sensitivity Questionnaire, Adult version (ARSQ) developed by Berenson et al. (2009). Gratitude was measured by the Gratitude Questionnaire (McCullough et al., 2002). The results showed that there is a significant positive correlation between ego integrity and gratitude ($r = .84, p < .01$) and they have significant negative correlation with rejection sensitivity as for ego integrity ($r = -.61, p < .01$) and for gratitude ($r = -.76, p < .01$). Results also showed that there is no difference in ego integrity among at home and institutionalized older adults while there is a significant difference in rejection sensitivity and gratitude between both the groups. The level of Rejection Sensitivity is higher in those who are living in old homes or institutions $M = 19.0$ and $SD = 8.08$ than the one who are living at home $M = 10.3$ and $SD = 3.77$. Similarly level of gratitude is higher in those who are living at home $M = 31.6$ and $SD = 6$ as compared to the ones who are living in old homes

or institutions $M=16.4$ and $SD=7.48$. It was also found that there were significant differences in demographic variables across study variables. Findings were consistent with the hypotheses generated for the current study.

Keywords: Ego Integrity, Rejection Sensitivity and Gratitude.