



## Prediction of Narcissistic Personality Tendencies in University Students in Terms of Some Variables<sup>1</sup>

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### Abstract

The purpose of this study is to investigate whether perceived parental attitudes and subjective well-being in university students predict narcissistic personality tendencies. The study was conducted with 1377 students studying at various faculties of Inonu University in the academic year of 2014-2015 and participated in the study voluntarily. Of the obtained data, 1146 of which were completely filled were included in the study. The personal information form prepared by the researcher was used as the data collection tool in the study to obtain information about the Narcissistic Personality Inventory, Positive and Negative Affect Scale, Life Satisfaction Scale, Parent Attitude Scale and demographic variables. The data were analyzed with SPSS 18.0 package program. Multiple linear regression analysis was used to analyze the data. Parents' attitudes, which are perceived to be very low predictive levels of subjective well-being and sub-dimensions of narcissistic personality tendencies, were found not to predict sub-dimensions of narcissistic personality tendencies.

**Keywords:** Narcissistic personality, subjective well-being, life satisfaction, positive and negative affect, parental attitude.

## Introduction

Psychology and close sciences have taken place as basic sciences in the investigation of the individual's personality, which is the core of society, and the factors affecting him or her. While examining personality, they also focused on their pathologies and defined narcissism as a personality problem (Köroğlu, 2007, p. 91). The factors that cause narcissistic personality tendency and the relation of narcissistic personality tendency with other aspects of personality have also been a matter of curiosity (Allrogen et al., 2018; Rogoza et al., 2018; Martinsen et al., 2019; Casale, Fioravanti, Baldi, Flett, & Hewitt, 2020). Etymologically, it is associated with the word "narke", which means indifference or insensitivity in Greek (Geçtan, 2010, p. 254) and translated as "self-love" in our language. Narcissism is a personality type characterized by superiority, grandiose appearance of personality, sense of claiming, lower empathy and grandiose fantasies in recent studies (Schnieders & Gore, 2011, p.177).

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Narcissism is also defined as a complex characteristic consisting of intense psychological interest towards oneself (Zondag, 2006: 230), inflated self-image, and internal spiritual and interpersonal strategies to protect weak relational functioning (Twenge & Campbell, 2003, p.262).

Freud's article called "An Introduction on Narcissism" forms the basis of narcissism in modern psychoanalysis (Karaaziz & Atak, 2013). Freud's research process on narcissism started with the investigation of which the libidinal energy withdrawn from the outside world is directed in patients with schizophrenia. He found that this libidinal energy is directed towards the self, which leads to an attitude that can be called narcissism. Freud interpreted narcissism as a libidinal complement to the selfishness of the self-preservation instinct and a feature attributable to any living thing to some extent. However, when he concentrated on his research on narcissism, he came to the conclusion that there are two types of narcissism, primary and secondary narcissism. He defined primary narcissism, also known as childish narcissism, as a fundamental process in which the libido of the child shifts from external objects to his or her own self, and he said that it happens to everyone. Secondary narcissism, on the other hand, is explained as the libido withdrawn from the outside world and it is directed towards the "I" (Freud, 2010, p. 23, 24).

Narcissists are defined as people who consider themselves to be overly admired and superior in terms of physical and spiritual aspects, await constant appreciation, attention and approval, and believe that they deserve special attention wherever they go (Öztürk, 1997, p. 326). According to the narcissist, he or she deserves everything more than anyone else. They focus on the successes of love and professional life (Andre &Lelord, 2007, p.122).

Narcissistic personality tendency brings other personality problems with it. In studies investigating the relationship between narcissism and other personality disorders, narcissism was associated with antisocial personality and aggression (Wink, 1991, p.590; Rhodewalt & Morf, 1998, p.683; Kernberg, 2012, p.31), and anger (Benotsch & Pavlovic, 2004, p.36; Bogart, 2012; Meier & Semmer, 2012, p.56), with cyberbullying (Dilmaç, 2009, p.1291; Scaglione, 2006; cited in Ekşi, 2012, p.1684;), depression (Arie, Haruvi, Catalan & Apter, 2005, p.37; Kohut, 2006, p.26; Trumpeter, Watson, O'Leary, & Weathington, 2008, p.62; Fromm, 2014, p.68) has been found. These results suggest that if the factors that drive individuals to narcissism are not determined and eliminated, other problems will appear as well. Therefore, it has been understood that it is important to carry out preventive studies on this subject.

It is thought that the starting point of preventive work to be done is the family because one of the most important factors that drive individuals to narcissism is the family and the family's approach to the child. Freud emphasizes that the foundation of the child's personality is laid in the first five years. In this period when children's attitudes and behaviors also begin to form, the family has a shaping effect on children and their behavior. Besides, parenting styles adopted by parents are seen as one of the important determinants of the child's personality structure and emotional development (Özgülven, 2010, p. 209). It



has been determined that many situations that cause adjustment disorders in children are caused by inadequate first-parent and child relationships (Yavuzer, 1994; cited in Biricik, 2011).

It is considered that the family has an important effect on the development of narcissistic tendencies in individuals. Horney (1939) also expressed an opinion in this direction and states that narcissism, which he called ego swelling, is caused by broken relationships in childhood (cited in Geçtan, 2010, p. 255). There are studies confirming this view as well. In a study examining the relationship of over-tolerant parenting styles with narcissism, it was concluded that the perceived over-valuing parental attitude is the best predictor of narcissism (Barbin & Ocampo, 2017). A study on childhood experiences with adults indicated that negative childhood experiences predicted vulnerable narcissism, while parental overvaluation predicted grandiose narcissism (Nguyen & Shaw, 2020). Research examining the relationship between parenting styles and parental experiences and narcissism found that excessive parental protection that is remembered is associated with both vulnerable and grandiose narcissistic personality tendencies (van Schie, Jarman, Huxley, & Grenyer, 2020). They found that the democratic parental attitude is less related to narcissistic maladjustment, while the permissive parental attitude is associated with the feeling of raw arrogance (Watson, Little, & Biderman, 1992, p. 231). In their studies investigating the harmonious and incompatible dimensions of narcissism, Barry et al. found out that the congruent side of narcissism is related to positive parenting attitudes and the maladjusted side to negative parenting attitudes (Barry, Frick, Adler, & Grafeman, 2007, p.508). In four different psychology studies examining the relationship between parenting styles and children's narcissistic personality traits, they discovered that children with mothers whose mothers were both warm and psychologically controlled (in other words, helicopters) received the highest scores for narcissism later (Twenge & Campbell, 2010, p.122). As a result of a 20-year longitudinal study on narcissism and parenting styles in young adults, it was found that parental attitudes were effective in the development of healthy and maladaptive forms of narcissism (Cramer, 2011).

Another subject of the study is to create subjective well-being. Subjective well-being, which is called "happiness" in daily language, has always been in the field of interest of philosophers and historians of religion from past to present and they have done various researches on this subject (Yetim, 2001, p. 133). Freud takes happiness as an important characteristic of human beings. Freud interprets people as beings who escape from pain and try to reach pleasure (Eryılmaz, 2012, p. 407). It is seen that researchers who conduct research in the field of psychology have recently begun to focus on this subject.

Subjective well-being means that the individual evaluates his/her life and makes a judgment about his/her life (Haybron, 2000, p. 207). Diener, who is one of the researchers who contributed the most to subjective well-being, defined subjective well-being as how and why people live a positive life, that is, their personal experiences about the quality of life that people perceive themselves (Diener, et al., 1999; cited in Yang, Wang, & Teng, 2008, p.



1366). Wilson (1967) defined subjective well-being as a high level of happiness in one of his first empirical studies on happiness (Cited in Diener, Suh, Lucas, & Smith, 1999, p.276). Subjective well-being is not a one-dimensional construct. It consists of three dimensions: negative affect, positive affect and life satisfaction (Diener, 2009, p.11). While negative and positive affects constitute the emotional part of subjective well-being, life satisfaction constitutes the cognitive part and includes the individual's evaluations about various areas of life (marriage, work, health, success, etc.) (Doğan, 2013, p.56). Positive affect expresses the combination of willingness, energetic, spiritual arousal and determination (Watson, 1988; Watson & Pennebaker, 1989; cited in Cenkseven & Akbaş, 2013). Negative affect reflects a wide range of unpleasant moods such as sadness, anxiety, fear, anger, guilt and contempt (Watson, 1988; Watson & Pennebaker, 1989; cited in Cenkseven & Akbaş, 2013). Life satisfaction is defined by Shin and Johnson (1978) as a general evaluation of the quality of life of a person according to the criteria he/she chooses (Cited in: Diener, Emmons, Larsen, & Griffin, 1985, p.71). Life satisfaction with the provision of basic needs; with the social and dignity needs of positive affects; negative affects are reported to be related to basic needs, the need for dignity, and the need for autonomy (Tay & Diener, 2011, p. 354).

Studies on subjective well-being have sought an answer to the question of why people evaluate their own lives positively (Diener, 1984; cited in Cenkseven & Akbaş, 2007, p.44). In the doctoral study of Wilson (1967) on subjective well-being, this question was answered as "the most advantageous are the happiest". In other words, Wilson (1967) considered that happy people are those who are young, healthy, well-educated, economically in good condition, extroverted, optimistic, carefree, religious, married, have desires, and intelligent of both sexes (Cited in Yetim, 2001). p. 134).

The relationship of narcissism with subjective well-being and its sub-dimensions is among the topics examined in foreign literature. Paul (2002), in a study examining the relationship between narcissism and happiness, concluded that narcissistic individuals are happier and this is due to high self-esteem (Paul, 2002, p.379). Campbell (1981) found a significant relationship between satisfaction from self and life satisfaction, which is one of the sub-dimensions of subjective well-being. It was concluded that self-descriptions of the "real" and "ideal" in various fields have positive correlations with self-report measures of subjective well-being and other measures (Pavot, Fujita, & Diener, 1997, as cited in Yetim, 2001, p.186).

As a result of the literature review, it was seen that narcissistic personality tendencies were not adequately addressed in our country in various dimensions. Various studies have investigated the relationship between narcissistic personality tendencies for their parents style overseas presence (Watson et al., 1992, Barry et al., 2007, Cramer, 2011; Segrin et al., 2013) but we could not find any research on the relationship with narcissism and their parents' style in Turkey. The findings of the study of cultural factors to be taken when considering the attitude of Turkey parents are important in terms of the impact on the cross-cultural validity. In addition, no research on subjective well-being to predict



narcissistic personality tendencies has been found in the national literature. Based on this information, it is thought that the study will be a useful source for new researches in the literature.

In this study, it was aimed to investigate whether perceived parental attitudes and subjective well-being in university students predicted narcissistic personality tendencies. For this purpose, answers to the following questions were sought:

- 1) Do the positive and negative affect states of university students in the sample group significantly predict their narcissistic personality tendencies?
- 2) Do the life satisfaction of university students in the sample group significantly predict their narcissistic personality tendencies?
- 3) Do the perceived parental attitudes of university students in the sample group significantly predict narcissistic personality tendencies?

The problem of the study should be clearly indicated in the Introduction part. The introduction part should be followed by method, findings, discussion and conclusion. The problem of the study should be clearly indicated in the Introduction part. The introduction part should be followed by method, findings, discussion and conclusion. The problem of the study should be clearly indicated in the Introduction part. The introduction part should be followed by method, findings, discussion and conclusion.

## **Method**

This research is descriptive research. The research was conducted using a survey model and random sampling. In this section, information about the sample of the research, the data collection tools used in the research and the analysis of the obtained data are given.

### **Sampling**

The sample of the study was carried out in the 2014-2015 academic year, 739 males (64.49%) and 407 females (35.51%) selected by random sampling method at various faculties of Inonu University in the 2nd, 3rd and 4th grade. It involves volunteer students who are present during the course time. The ages of the students in the sample ranged between 18 and 37. Since Onur (2004) stated that self-concepts have not yet gained stability and their psychological maturity has not developed during the transition period from adolescence to young adulthood, 1st graders were not included in the study.

### **Data Collection Tools**

As data collection tools in the study, "Narcissistic Personality Inventory" in determining narcissistic personality tendencies, "Life Satisfaction Scale" and "Positive and Negative Effect Scale" in determining subjective well-being, "Parent Attitude Scale" in measuring perceived parental attitudes, independent variables The "Personal Information Form" prepared by the researcher were used in order to obtain information about the subject.

### **Narcissistic Personality Inventory (NPE)**



Narcissistic personality inventory (NPE) was developed by Raskin and Hall in 1979 based on DSM III criteria. In 2006, Ames et al reached NPE-16, which is in parallel with NPE-40, with five separate studies on NPE (Ames, Rose, & Anderson,2006: 440). The average internal reliability of the scale was determined to be 0.67. Atay (2009) made the standardization of the 16-item NPE to Turkish. The internal reliability and structural validity of the scale were tested on two separate samples of 280 participants. Cronbach's Alpha value was found to be 0.57 in the first application, and Cronbach's Alpha value was found to be 0.627 in the second sample group. The findings obtained indicate that NPE has sufficient reliability and validity values (Atay, 2009: 181, 193).

#### ***Positive and Negative Affect Scale (PNAS)***

The scale consists of 20 items and two sub-dimensions named "Positive and Negative Affect Schedule (PANAS)" by D. Watson, AL Clark, and G. Carey, including 10 positive and 10 negative affect items (Watson, McKinney, Hawkins, & Morris, 1988. , p. 1069). When the scale is given to the participants with the instruction "generally" as the evaluation period, the Cronbach's Alpha value was determined as .88 and .87 for positive and negative affect, respectively (Watson et al., 1988, p. 1065). The adaptation study to Turkish was conducted by Gençöz (2000) with the name of "Positive and Negative Affect Scale". In this study, Cronbach's Alpha value was .83 and .86 for positive and negative affect, respectively; test-retest consistency was found to be .40 and .54 for positive and negative affect, respectively (Gençöz, 2000, p. 2).

#### ***Life Satisfaction Scale (LSS)***

The scale was developed with the name The Satisfaction with Life Scale by Diener, Emmons, Larsen, and Griffin (1985). Test-retest consistency was found to be .82, and Cronbach's Alpha value was found to be .87. It has been found that the scores of the scale show a high correlation with the scores of other scales measuring subjective well-being (Diener et al., 1985, p. 72). In 1993, Yetim conducted a study in which he investigated the suitability of the scale for the Turkish population. In his study, he found the test-retest consistency coefficient as .73, and Cronbach's Alpha value as .86 (Yetim, 1993, p. 277).

#### ***Parents Attitude Scale (PAS)***

The scale was developed in 1991 by Lamborn et al. The scale created by using Baumrind's (1971), Maccoby and Martin (1983) and other scales in the field has three sub-dimensions: acceptance/interest, supervision, and psychological autonomy (Lamborn, Mounts, Steinberg, & Dornbusch, 1991, p. 1049). The adaptation study of the scale to Turkish was conducted by Yılmaz (2000). In his study, the test-retest consistency coefficient of the scale for university students was .79 for the acceptance/interest sub-dimension, .85 for the supervision sub-dimension, and .67 for the psychological autonomy sub-dimension. Cronbach Alpha's value was found as .73 for acceptance/interest sub-dimension, .66 for supervision sub-dimension and .65 for psychological autonomy sub-dimension. As a result of the factor analysis performed, unlike other age groups, acceptance/interest and



psychological autonomy were collected in one dimension and the supervision dimension in two dimensions (Yılmaz, 2000, p. 166).

### Data Analysis

Before performing the analysis, it was investigated whether the data set met some assumptions. When the results are examined, it is seen that the scatter diagrams created for standardized residual values and standardized predicted values describe a linear relationship. The analyzes were carried out on the data of 1146 people. SPSS 18.0 package program was used in the analysis of the data. Multiple linear regression analysis was used to analyze the research data.

### Findings

In this section, statistical findings as regards the analysis of the data obtained from the study have been given.

#### *Descriptive Findings Regarding the Prediction of Positive and Negative Affects of Participants on Narcissistic Personality Tendencies*

Multiple regression analysis was conducted to reveal the ability of the participants to explain the narcissistic personality tendencies (superiority, exhibitionism, authority, exploitation, claiming rights, and self-sufficiency) of positive and negative affect states. Analysis results are presented in Table-1.

**Table 1:** Multiple Regression Analysis Results Related to the Prediction of Positive and Negative Affects of Participants on Narcissistic Personality Tendencies

Dependent Variable	Independent Variable	R	R <sup>2</sup>	Std. B	t	F	Binary r
Superiority	Constant				-4.52***		
	Positive Affect State	0.294	0.087	.29	10.38***	54.22***	.29
	Negative Affect			-.02	-.65*		-.03
Exhibitionism	Constant				5.74***		
	Positive Affect State	0.071	0.005	.04	1.51*	2.93*	.04
	Negative Affect			.06	1.92*		.06
Authority	Constant				44.13***		
	Positive Affect State	0.025	0.001	.01	.30*	.35*	.01
	Negative Affect			.02	.79*		.02
Exploitation	Constant				6.85***		
	Positive Affect State	0.192	0.37	0.19	6.62***	21.94***	.19
	Negative Affect			.00	-.17*		-.01
Making Claims	Constant	0.245	0.06		12.87***	36.50***	



	Positive Affect State							
	Negative Affect							
Self-sufficiency	Constant							
	Positive Affect State	0.359	0.129					
	Negative Affect							

\*p>0.05, \*\*p<0.05, \*\*\*p<0.01

In Table 1, it is seen that positive and negative affect states together have a significant effect on the mean scores. It is understood that predictor variables explain about 9% of the variance in superiority scores. On the other hand, when the calculated standard path coefficients were examined, only positive mood was found to be a significant predictor of superiority among the predictor variables. According to another result obtained, it is seen that positive and negative affect states together have a significant effect on the exploitability score averages. It was found that predictor variables explain about 4% of the variance in exploitability scores. On the other hand, when the calculated standard path coefficients are examined, it is observed that only positive mood among the predictive variables is a significant predictor of exploitability.

According to another result obtained, it was found that positive and negative affect states have a significant effect on the mean scores for claiming together. Predictor variables explain about 6% of the variance in claiming scores. On the other hand, according to the calculated standard path coefficients, it is seen that a positive mood is more effective in claiming rights than a negative mood. Another finding is that positive and negative affect states together have a significant effect on the self-efficacy score averages. Predictor variables explain about 13% of the variance in self-efficacy scores. On the other hand, according to the calculated standard path coefficients, it is understood that positive mood is more effective on self-efficacy than negative mood. In addition, it was found that positive and negative affect states together did not have a significant effect on exhibitionism and authority score averages.

**Descriptive Findings Regarding the Participants' Life Satisfaction Predicting Narcissistic Personality Tendencies**

Multiple regression analysis was conducted to determine the power of life satisfaction of the participants to explain their narcissistic personality tendencies (superiority, exhibitionism, authority, exploitation, claiming rights, self-sufficiency). Analysis results are presented in Table-2.

**Table 2:** Multiple Regression Analysis Results Related to the Prediction of the Participants' Life Satisfaction Predicting Narcissistic Personality Tendency

Dependent Variable	Independent Variable	R	R <sup>2</sup>	Std. B	t	F	Binary r
Superiority	Constant				5.91***		
	Life Satisfaction	.03	0.001	.03	1.02*	1.03*	.03
Exhibitionism	Constant				18.82***		
	Life Satisfaction	.022	0.000	-.02	-.74*	.55*	-.02
Authority	Constant	.018	0.000		100.38***	.37*	





	Life Satisfaction			.02	.61*		.02
Exploitation	Constant				25.10***		
	Life Satisfaction	.039	.002	.04	1.31*	1.73	.04
Claiming Rights	Constant				10.72***		
	Life Satisfaction	.008	0.000	-.01	-.27*	.07*	-.01
Self-sufficiency	Constant				28.83***		
	Life Satisfaction	.114	.012	-.11	-3.87***	14.95***	-.11

\*p>0.05, \*\*\*p<0.01

When the correlation analysis is examined in Table 2, it is understood that the relationship between life satisfaction and sub-dimensions of narcissistic personality tendency is quite low. Despite the low correlation values, according to the results of the regression analysis and life satisfaction, no significant effect was found on the average scores of superiority, exhibitionism, authority, exploitation and claiming rights. It was discovered that life satisfaction has a low but significant effect on the self-efficacy score average. It is seen that the predictor variable explains approximately 1% of the variance in self-efficacy scores. In other words, it was found that life satisfaction has no effect on superiority, exhibitionism, authority, exploitation and claiming rights, but it has a low effect on self-sufficiency.

### ***Descriptive Findings Related to the Perceived Parental Attitudes of Participants Predicting Narcissistic Personality Tendencies***

Multiple regression analysis was conducted to determine the ability of the participants' perceived parental attitudes to explain narcissistic personality tendencies (superiority, exhibitionism, authority, exploitation, claiming rights, self-sufficiency). The analysis results are presented in Table-3.

**Table 3:** Multiple Regression Analysis Results Related to the Perceived Parental Attitudes of Participants Predicting Narcissistic Personality Tendencies

Dependent Variable	Independent Variable	R	R <sup>2</sup>	Std. B	t	F	Binary r
Superiority	Constant				3.51***		
	Acceptance / interest			-.02	-.54*		-.05
	Psychological Autonomy	.136	.018	.00	-.10*	7.13***	.05
	Check			-.13	-4.19***		-.14
Exhibitionism	Constant				5.65***		
	Acceptance / Interest			-.03	-.87*		-.05
	Psychological Autonomy	.073	.005	.01	.35*	2.04*	.04
	Check			-.05	-1.68*		-.06
Authority	Constant				24.80***		
	Acceptance / Interest			.08	2.25**		.06
	Psychological Autonomy	.067	.005	.04	1.23*	1.72*	.01
	Check			.00	-.12*		.00
Exploitation	Constant				5.98***		
	Acceptance / Interest			.06	1.81*		.03
	Psychological Autonomy	.072	.005	.03	.90*	2.00*	.02
	Check			-.05	-1.70*		-.05
Claiming Rights	Constant	.107	.011		-.02*	4.38**	



Acceptance / Interest	.03	.78*	.00
Psychological Autonomy Check	.10	2.77**	.05
	.09	2.94**	.07

\*p>0.05, \*\*p<0.05, \*\*\*p<0.01

When the correlation values are examined in Table 3, it is seen that the relationship level between perceived parental attitudes and sub-dimensions of narcissistic personality tendencies is low. However, according to the results of the regression analysis, it was found that perceived parental attitudes did not have a significant effect on exhibitionism ( $F = 2.04$ ), authority ( $F = 1.72$ ) and exploitation ( $F = 2.00$ ) mean scores. It is understood that perceived parental attitudes have a low but significant effect on the mean scores of superiority ( $F = 7.13$ ) and claiming rights ( $F = 4.38$ ). Given approximately 2% of the variance in the superiority scores of the predictor variable, it is seen that it explains approximately 1% of the variance in claim scores. In other words, it was found that perceived parental attitudes had no effect on the dimensions of exhibitionism, authority and exploitation, but had a low effect on the dimensions of superiority and claiming rights.

### Discussion and Conclusion

In this study, the effects of life satisfaction, subjective well-being through positive and negative affects and perceived parental attitudes on the narcissistic personality tendency, exploitation, claiming rights, self-efficacy, authority, and exhibitionism were investigated.

According to the results of the linear regression analysis conducted to answer the research problems, it was found that positive and negative mood states were most effective on the self-efficacy sub-dimension with 13% variance, superiority with 9% variance, claim with 6% variance and 4%. It has been found that it is effective on the variance sub-dimension of exploitation. It was determined that a positive mood was more effective on claiming rights and self-efficacy, while a negative mood had no effect on the sub-dimensions of superiority and exploitation. It has been discovered that positive affect states have more influence on these sub-dimensions than negative mood states. Positive and negative affect states were not predictive on the exhibitionism and authority sub-dimension.

The findings of the study conducted by Giacomini and Jordan (2016) with university students aged between 17 and 36 are similar to this finding. In their research, they investigated the participants' daily life satisfaction, daily positive affect, daily negative affects and the effects of these dimensions on daily narcissistic personality tendencies. They found that when the participants came with positive affects, their level of narcissism also increased. The findings of the study Lamkin, Lavner, & Shaffer(2016) conducted with 54 adult couples differ from the findings of this study. This difference is considered to be due to the difference in average ages of the sample groups.

Narcissists are defined as individuals who have exaggerated self-perceptions, are overly self-confident, overly admired, and have strong beliefs that they are perfect individuals (Twenge& Campbell, 2010, p.43). These characteristics are thought to cause the narcissistic



individual to feel better and experience positive affects, albeit in a short time. In addition, in this study, narcissism was investigated not as a pathology but as a personality disposition. This may be an important factor in the fact that positive affects are more explanatory on narcissistic personality tendency. Individuals with a narcissistic personality disorder may be more likely to experience negative feelings such as shame, humiliation, and depressive feelings, as their self-esteem can be easily damaged (Köroğlu, 2007, p.99). However, in this study, the effect of positive affect states on non-pathological narcissistic personality traits was examined.

The relationship between life satisfaction and narcissistic personality tendency was found to be very low. It has been determined that there is no predictability. The research findings of Kopelman et al. (1991), Giacomini and Jordan (2016) and Akıncı (2015) differ from this finding. Kopelman et al. (1991) found a significant and inverse relationship between the two in their research, in which they investigated the relationship between narcissistic personality tendencies and life satisfaction. Akıncı (2015) found that there is a positive significant relationship between grandiose narcissism and life satisfaction. Giacomini and Jordan (2016) stated that there is a positive significant relationship between life satisfaction and narcissistic personality disposition. These different findings suggest that some other variables (age, socio-cultural differences, economic level, and education level) may be effective between life satisfaction and narcissism. Akıncı (2015) conducted his research with participants between 18 and 75 different education levels. Finding a different finding from the findings of this study may also be due to differences in the sample group. It is thought that there are socio-cultural and economic differences between the sample group of Kopelman et al. (1991) and Giacomini and Jordan's (2016) study and the sample group of this research. Applications can yield different results in different research groups.

Life satisfaction, which is the cognitive component of subjective well-being, has a more stable quality compared to affective elements (Çivitci, 2012, p. 4). Life satisfaction is affected by a person's perceptions and evaluations (Köker, 1991, p. 20). The sample group of this research consists of university students in their youth period. In this age, the self-concept is constantly fluctuating. Because young people are looking for an identity that suits them (Yörükoğlu, 2007, p. 104). This situation is thought to be the reason why life satisfaction does not predict narcissistic personality tendencies.

No relationship was found between perceived parental attitudes and narcissistic personality tendencies. It was determined that the parental attitudes perceived by the participants were not a significant predictor of narcissistic personality tendencies. The research findings of Watson et al. (1992) and Cramer (2011) differ from this finding. In addition, it has been stated in the literature that efforts of modern parents to convince the child to be the favorite of the family together with emotional distance are an important factor in the formation of narcissistic personality tendency (Lasch, 2006, p. 93). The difference between the findings of this study and the information in the literature and other research findings is thought to be due to cultural differences. Studies on parental attitudes sometimes indicate that



differences within cultures can be as important as differences among cultures, so the cultural context in which we live should be carefully studied (Steinberg et al.1991; cited in Yılmaz, 2000, p.163. ).

Parents are considered to have an important influence on the social, emotional, mental and moral development of their children, as they are one of both genetic and environmental factors. Parents refer to each parenting attitude and behavior in accordance with the socialization purpose envisaged by the culture they live in (Sümer, Gündoğdu Aktürk, & Helvacı, 2010, p.44). In Turkish society, the individual is expected to be in harmony with other people living in the society and the socialization of the child takes place within the framework of these values (Aslan & Cansever, 2007, p.116). It is thought that a child who is raised in harmony with other people and towards society will not have narcissistic personality tendencies.

In an effort to convince the child to be the favorite of the family together with the emotional distance to the formation of a narcissistic personality (Lasch, 2006, p. 93), cold and rejecting parental behaviors have an important effect (Kernberg, 2012, p. 205). In Turkish society, with industrialization, the value of the child in the family has increased. It has become an institution where the psychological needs of the child such as love, belonging and autonomy are met (Kağıtçıbaşı, 1996; cited in Eryılmaz, 2010, p.27). In the Turkish family structure, it is accepted that parental attitudes play a caring, affectionate role towards their child and at the same time supporting their independence. The low level of relation between the perceived parental attitudes and narcissistic personality tendencies and the lack of predictability may be due to the characteristics of the Turkish family structure.

### **Suggestions**

The results of this study are limited to a certain number of students who voluntarily participate in the research at a state university. Similar studies can be conducted with individuals at different socio-cultural levels and different age groups. In addition, while examining the relationship between narcissistic personality tendencies and subjective well-being and perceived parental attitudes, it is also recommended to look at the role of possible mediating variables.

In the study, narcissistic personality was measured with the Narcissistic Personality Inventory, perceived parental attitude was measured with the Parents Attitude Scale, and subjective well-being was measured indirectly with the Positive and Negative Affect Scale and the Satisfaction with Life Scale. In similar studies to be conducted in the future, it may be suggested to measure narcissistic personality tendency, subjective well-being and perceived parental attitudes with different measurement tools.

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