

Highlights

- Findings support the convergent and discriminant validity of the GPQ-C.
- Generalized pliance is related to greater empathic concern.
- Generalized pliance related to greater capacity to enjoy interpersonal interactions.

Background

- Pliance refers to behavior under the control of socially-mediated consequences for a relation between the rule and behavior of interest¹.
- Females typically report greater generalized pliance than males, and generalized pliance is positively correlated with both psychological inflexibility and depression²⁻⁴.
- Despite the recent development of a self-report measure of pliance which is suitable for use with adolescents (GPQ-C), a paucity of published research has examined adolescent correlates of generalized pliance^{4,5}.

The present study examined the relationships between generalized pliance, psychological inflexibility, affect, empathic concern and capacity to enjoy interpersonal interactions in a sample of adolescents.

Method

- **Participants:** 110 adolescents (female: 80, male: 30) aged 14-17 ($M = 15.64$, $SD = .52$).

Participants completed self-report measures of generalized pliance⁴, psychological inflexibility⁶, affect⁷, empathic concern⁸, & capacity to enjoy interpersonal interactions⁹ via Qualtrics.

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Results

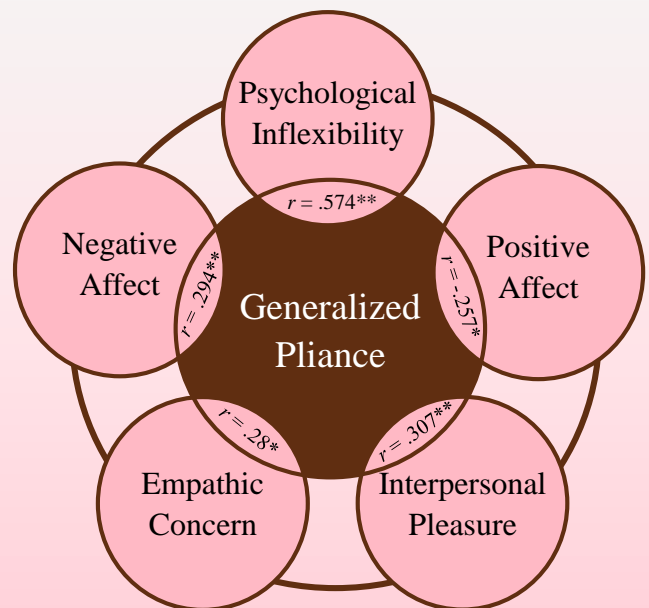


Figure 1. Diagrammatic representation of observed correlations. $^{**}p \leq .001$, $^*p \leq .01$

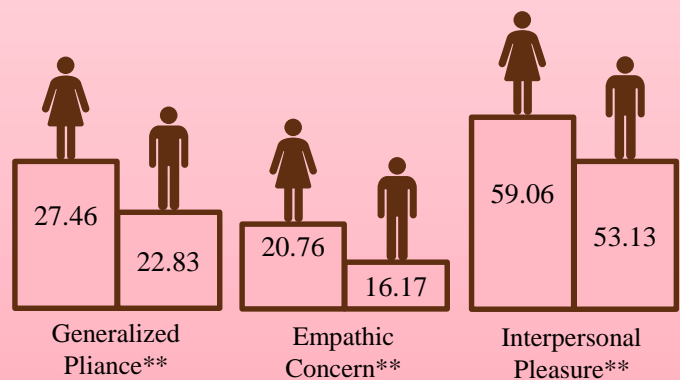


Figure 2. Diagrammatic representation of observed gender differences. $^{**}p \leq .001$

Discussion

- Psychological inflexibility, negative affect, empathic concern & interpersonal pleasure positively correlated with generalized pliance. Positive affect negatively correlated with generalized pliance.
- Females reported greater generalized pliance, empathic concern and capacity to enjoy interpersonal interactions. No gender differences observed in inflexibility or affect.
- Longitudinal research is needed to examine the impact of females' greater generalized pliance over time.