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## Relationship between emotional intelligence and personality dimensions among the juvenile delinquent.

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### Abstract

Aim of the present study the relationship between emotional intelligence and personality among the juvenile delinquent. To assess the emotional intelligence, Emotional Intelligence Scale by Hyde, Pethe and Dhar (2001) and to assess the personality, NEO-PIR by Costa and Mcrae used and it's administered 40 juvenile delinquent. Finding indicates that emotional intelligence and big five personality dimensions are associated among the juvenile delinquent. Emotional intelligence and neuroticism are negatively associated juvenile delinquent. Emotional intelligence and consciousness as well as agreeableness are strongly associated in positive direction among the juvenile delinquent. Emotional intelligence and openness to experience is moderately associated in the positive direction among the juvenile delinquent. Emotional intelligence and extraversion are not associated. Males and females do not differ on emotional intelligence. Keywords: Emotional intelligence, personality dimensions and juvenile delinquent.

### Introduction:

Emotions play vital role in one's life. Love, affection, happiness, delightfulness, joy these are the positive emotions. Anger, fear and anxiety, vanity, distress, depression, misery, Frustration, sadness are the negative emotions. Gardner has stated eight important types of intelligence in which two important types are interpersonal intelligence (ability to understand others' emotionality) and intrapersonal intelligence (ability to know one self's strength, weaknesses and emotionality). There are two important types of intelligence which are the components of emotionality. So, there is no doubt that emotionality is a unique and distinct ability dimension. But many other theorists have treated emotionality as a personality dimension. They claim that one can develop emotional competency like any other personality trait and hence it is linked with the personality traits. In the light of above assertion, it is interesting to know the association between emotional quotient and big five personality dimensions and prefers the mixed model.

**Statement of the problem:**

To study the relationship between emotional intelligence and personality dimensions among the juvenile delinquent.

**Objective:**

- 1) To study the association between emotional intelligence and personality dimensions among the juvenile delinquent.
- 2) To study the effect of gender on emotional intelligence among the juvenile delinquent.

**Rationale and Significance of the study:**

The emotional intelligence has an effect on several dimensions of life such as health, work performance, relationship with family and colleagues, corporate life, career advances, educational and academic field. Also there are many conflicts and controversies regarding the researchers of emotional intelligence level among males and females. Through this study, the researcher intends to verify whether there is any relationship between emotional intelligence and the personality..

In addition to this, to fulfill the zest of curiosity to know whether there is a gender difference on emotional intelligence among boys and girls.

**Review of literature:**

Substantial research has been conducted on the various relationships between personality traits and emotional intelligence. All the big five personality traits have been found to be correlated to least moderately with emotional intelligence (MaCrae, 2000). Particular emotional intelligence measures generally has found to have at least moderate significant correlation with extraversion and negative correlation with agreeableness, openness and conscientiousness (Matthews, 2006). Indeed it can be argued that emotional intelligence (ability dimension), influences the development of personality. Athota-Oconnar and Jackson (2009) have studied the role of emotional intelligence and personality in moral reasoning. There has reported that there is high correlation between big five personality dimensions except conscientiousness.

Personality is viewed as an enduring behavior pattern which is consistent across the variety of situations. Mayer, Cost and McCrae (1982) stated the stability and consistency of personality trait throughout the life. Bracket and Mayer (2003) found moderate significant correlation with openness and emotional intelligence ( $r = 0.16$ ). They also reported the high significant correlation which ranges from 0.27 to  $-0.57$ . Sala (2002) used Goleman emotional intelligence competency in inventory and big five personality factors. The Goleman emotional intelligence inventory is correlated with extraversion, openness and conscientiousness ( $r = 0.22$  to  $0.49$ ). In the Mayer-Salovey-Caruso emotional intelligence test and NEO-PI-R significant correlation were found between openness ( $r = 0.25$ ) and agreeableness ( $r = 0.28$ ), factors of personality and emotional intelligence.

**Methodology:**

1) **Design** – Using correlation method, Quasi experimental design is used in the present study.

**2) Operational Definition –**

a) **Emotional intelligence** – To perceive, identify or understand oneself and others' emotions and their management. This is called as an emotional intelligence.

**b) Big five personality dimensions –**

i) **Openness** – It is a tendency or cluster of reflective intelligence, artistic and aesthetic sense, creativity and novelty in thinking, width of interests, free and extreme expressions of feelings and emotions, unconventional attitude and having philosophy and ideology in life.

ii) **Conscientiousness** – It is a tendency or cluster of well-organized / orderliness / neatness, duty consciousness, work is worship attitude, expecting excellence in work/ achievement oriented, careful and responsible, punctual and reliable.

iii) **Extraversion** – It is a tendency or cluster of positive emotionality such as gregariousness (social), energetic (dynamic), assertive, action oriented attitude, warm and happy go lucky attitude.

iv) **Agreeableness** – It is a tendency or cluster of thorough genteelness, helping and cooperative attitude, sympathetic and kind, compliance, trustworthy.

v) **Neuroticism** – It is a tendency or a cluster of tense and dominated by negative emotionality such as anxious and worried, fearful vulnerable, impatient, moody, uncontained.

**3) Sample and Procedure:**

Total 40 Juvenile Delinquent selected from Nashik district of remand home. Age range was 14 to 18 years. Average age of sample was 16.2 years old. The tests were administered in group and samples were requested to fill the questionnaire sincerely and honestly, including personal data sheet.

**4) Hypothesis –**

i) There is an association between emotional intelligence and big five personality dimensions among the juvenile delinquent.

ii) There is no gender difference an emotional intelligence among boys and girls among the juvenile delinquent.

**5) Tools–****i) Emotional intelligence scale –**

Emotional intelligence scale developed by Hyde, Pethe and Dhar (2001).The test consists of 34 items and measures five characteristics of emotional intelligence and measures 10 components of emotionality. The scale found highly satisfied reliability and validity.

## ii) NEO-FFI

Marcie and Costa originally developed NEO-PIR in 1992. The scale consists of total 240 items which intend to measure big 5 personality dimension. NEO-FFI (NEO-five factor Inventory) is a short version of NEO-PI-R (1992). It consist research of big five personality dimensions. Though it is a short version, of NEO-PI-R, it technically fulfills all psychometric aspects well.

### Statistical analysis –

ii) **Pearson correlation** was calculated to access to correlation between emotional intelligence and personality dimensions among the juvenile delinquent.

iii) **t-test** is applied to compare girls' and boys' difference on emotional intelligence.

### Result and interpretation:

Table 1: Pearson product moment correlation between emotional intelligence and big five personality dimensions among the juvenile delinquent.

Variables	Correlation (r)	Level Of Significance
Emotional intelligence and Neuroticism	-0.175	0.05
Emotional intelligence and Conscientiousness	0.402	0.01
Emotional intelligence and openness	0.08	0.01
Emotional intelligence and agreeableness	0.206	0.05
Emotional intelligence and extraversion	0.13	Not significant

Correlation between emotional intelligence and neuroticism= -0.17 which is significant at the level of 0.05 level. This indicates that neurotic appear to be dominated by negative emotions. They have less control on their emotions and hence their emotional intelligence score appears to be less. Present study is consistent and is in support with the previous findings by Brackett and Mayer (2002), Sala (2002), Mayer and Salovey (2002). Association between emotional intelligence and conscientiousness is tested and which is found to be ( $r=0.40$ ) ( $N=40$ ) ( $P>0.01$  level). It indicates that the orderliness, careful responsible, duty oriented attitude, strive for excellence, punctual and sincereness appears to be linked with emotional intelligence. People having this type of personality perhaps may get more opportunity for developing their emotional competency. Hence the association appears to be fruitful. The obtained association between emotional intelligence and extraversion is 0.13 ( $r=0.13$ ) ( $N=40$ ) which is not significant. It is not consistent with the previous findings. Infact we expect strong association between emotional intelligence and extraversion. Because extraversion indicates positive emotionality, high energy level/enthusiasm and affectionate nature (warm relations).

It may be because as negative emotionality does not relate with emotional intelligence, positive emotionality also does not correlate with it. The obtained correlation between emotional intelligence and openness to experience is 0.08 ( $r=0.08$ . not significant). It indicates that there is no association between one's personality like openness to experience and emotional intelligence. The findings are consistent with the most of the researches. The poor association between emotional intelligence and openness is may be natural because these people are more imaginative, busy with their own thoughts and have

unconventional attitude as well as rigid value system. The linkage between emotional intelligence and agreeableness is given as  $r=0.21$ . ( $P>0.05$  level) directly indicating the strong positive association between emotional intelligence and agreeableness. These types of people are affectionate, decent, kind, co-operative and helping. So naturally they are more emotionally competent they know others' emotional sensitivity. The current study supports the previously coated research findings. In brief except the association between emotional intelligence and extraversion, all four personality dimensions appear to be strongly associated with emotional intelligence.

Table 2: Mean comparison of boys' and girls' emotional intelligence.

't' value	Level of Significance
0.544	Not significant

Since long back, people and researchers have been claiming the differences in emotionality among the male and female differences. They claim that females are more sensitive, kind, prosocial, affectionate, tolerant, patient, nurturing. It may be due to their natural hormonal changes. So considering emotionality and emotional intelligence, one may expect male-female differences over emotional intelligence.

But in the present study, when mean scores of male and female are compared by using t test, it is found to be 0.544 and which is non-significant.

#### **Conclusion:**

- 1) Emotional intelligence and big five personality dimensions are associated among the juvenile delinquent. Emotional intelligence and neuroticism are negatively associated juvenile delinquent. Emotional intelligence and consciousness as well as agreeableness are strongly associated in positive direction among the juvenile delinquent. Emotional intelligence and openness to experience is moderately associated in the positive direction among the juvenile delinquent. Emotional intelligence and extraversion are not associated.
- 2) Males and females do not differ on emotional intelligence.

#### **Limitations:**

- 1) As usual the paper-pencil tests have their limitations, present study also possess these limitations.
- 2) Samples are restricted to Nasik study and particular age group. Hence generalization has restrictions.

#### **Suggestions:**

- 1) For generalization one needs to study samples of all the age group.
- 2) For further research one can see the impact of emotional intelligence and personality on academic success in other spheres of life.

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