

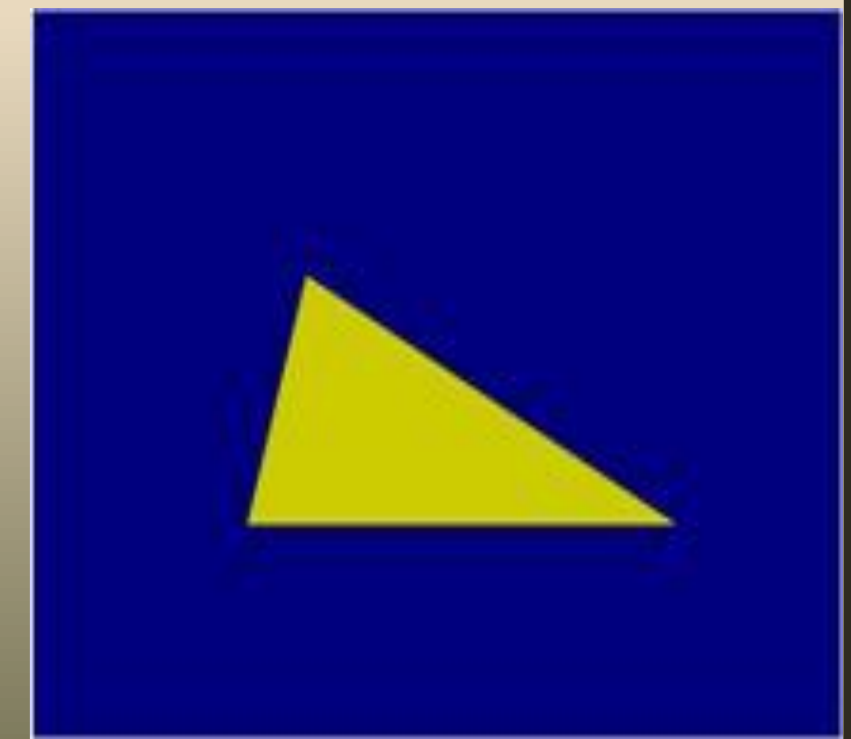


SOCIO-CULTURAL RISK FACTORS FOR EATING DISORDERS AMONG ADOLESCENT AND YOUTH SCHOLARIZED POPULATION

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INTRODUCTION

Recent literature suggests that the occurrence of eating disorders (ED) and dissatisfaction with body image are influenced by socio-cultural pressure of mass media and interpersonal relationships, towards achieving a thin-ideal body, a difficult goal to accomplish by many adolescents and young people.

This survey collects a wide range of socio-cultural risk factors considered in the literature (e.g. influence of the family, relationship with parents, parental psychological disorders or parental substance abuse, peer pressure to be thin, etc.) and studying its association with the presence of ED among adolescents and young people scholarized in the Community of Madrid.

METHOD

Participants

Population at school, Community of Madrid (N = 1543); male (n = 627), female (n = 916) 12 - 21 yr. old (M = 15.73, SD = 2.34)

Instruments

✓ *Eating Disorders Examination (EDE) interview, 12th Edition –Spanish adaptation-* (Raich, Mora, Sánchez-Carracedo & Torras 2000)

EDE interview (12th edition) has four subscales: Restraint, Eating Concern, Shape Concern, and Weight Concern. Spanish adaptation (Raich et al., 2000) achieved a good internal consistency (.80 to .90 across the subscales), adequate short-term (5-14 days) test-retest reliability for objective bulimic episodes (.79), and acceptable test-retest reliability for the subscales (.67 to .90) (Grilo, Lozano & Katherine, 2005).

✓ *Questionnaire of general socio-demographic data.* Designed *ad hoc*.

✓ *Questionnaire of Socio-Cultural Risk Factors.* Designed *ad hoc*.

Design

Case-control design, comparing 51 participants with ED DSM-IV-TR criteria with 1492 control participants.

CONCLUSIONS

Results show that participants with ED (DSM-IV-TR) diagnosis, compared with control participants, were significantly more exposed to socio-cultural risk, especially those related with family, including management of conflicts and emotions, as well as the presence of psychological disorders and abuse of substances (by father and/or mother).

These results support the hypothesis that ED are result of the exposure, among others, to socio-cultural risk factors.

Socio-cultural risk factors	Chi2
Bad / absence of relationship between father and mother	39.07**
Parental domination	18.74**
Critical parents	17.05**
Feeling abandonment from parents	30.15**
Divorced parents	16.67**
Abuse of alcohol (father and/or mother)	16.66**
Psychological disorder (father and/or mother)	16.04**
To receive teasing for weight	35.69**
Poor/bad relationship with parents	7.33*
Lack of parents' affect/love	4.49*
Severe sickness (father and/or mother)	8.22*
Importance of the physical appearance in the family	6.73*
Long absences (father and/or mother)	4.60*
Having relationships with other sex	10.84*
To receive teasing for other reasons (no weight and shape)	8.84*
Submission and obedience in the present	6.75†
Rebelliousness in the past	7.33†
Mother dieting to control weight and shape	3.33†
Siblings dieting to control weight and shape	2.81†
Parents with eating disorders	n.s.
Ingresses in the hospital	n.s.
No turning into parents	n.s.
Consume of drugs (father and/or mother)	n.s.
Ingresses in the hospital (father and/or mother)	n.s.
Frequent changes of residence	n.s.
Friends dieting to control weight and shape	n.s.
Social dissatisfaction	n.s.
Frequent long distance trips	n.s.
Lack of friends in childhood	n.s.
Note: † $p < .01$; * $p < .05$; ** $p < .001$	