Psychometric Properties of the Brief Fear of Negative Evaluation Scale: Turkish Form

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Abstract

Problem Statement: The feeling of negative evaluation accompanying social anxiety is defined as being overly concerned with others' opinions, hiding from the negative feelings of their unfavorable impressions, avoiding situations where there is potential evaluation, and expecting others to have a low opinion of them. Social anxiety and fear of negative evaluation has been studied in various cultures. In order to measure the fear of negative evaluation dimension of social anxiety, the Brief Fear of Negative Evaluation scale (BFNE) was developed. The BFNE was adapted for use with Turkish university students.

Purpose of Study: The purpose of this study is to adapt the BFNE to Turkish high school students.

Methods: The construct validity, internal consistency, and test-retest reliability of the scale were investigated. Three different groups were used in the analysis process. The participants included private and public high school students in Ankara, the capital city of Turkey.

Findings and Results: As a result of the data analysis, it was seen that BFNE has two factors (straight-forward subscale-S and reverse-scored subscale-R) and 11 items. The coefficient alphas were as follows: .82 (total), .84, and .63, respectively. The 4-week test-retest reliability coefficients for the scores on the 11-item BFNE, BFNE-S, and BFNE-R were as follows: .56, .65, and .32, respectively. BFNE-S and BFNE total scores significantly correlated with all measures of the TAI, RADS, SS, and LSAS. BFNE-R correlated lower but significantly with the RADS. It significantly correlated with none of the other measures of the four scales.

Conclusions and Recommendations: The internal consistency of BFNE was high for the total score and moderate for BFNE-S and BFNE-R. The test-retest reliability of the scale was moderate for the total score and BFNE-S and low for BFNE-R. In the future, divergent validity studies can be con-

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ducted with variables such as life satisfaction, happiness, self-confidence, and self-esteem.

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