
ABSTRACT

The relationship between mothers' narcissistic vulnerability and their attachment styles

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Kamiji and Miyashita (2005) defined narcissistic vulnerability as the inability to maintain mental stability and cope with anxiety due to one's narcissistic desires and hurt caused by others' reactions. This study examined the relationship between mothers' narcissistic vulnerability and their attachment styles. The participants included 103 mothers whose oldest child was between 0 and 3 years old and 103 mothers whose oldest child was between 7 and 11 years old. The participants completed an online questionnaire assessing their narcissistic vulnerability, the safety of their attachment, and attachment styles. Consequently, the overall safety of attachment and the age differences of their children showed no significant correlation with narcissistic vulnerability. On the other hand, when separated by attachment styles, the rates of narcissistic vulnerability of some insecure styles (enmeshed, withdrawn, and fearful) were significantly higher than that of the secure style. Particularly, the fearful style was observed to have more characteristics of narcissistic vulnerability than other insecure styles. Future studies should consider the variations in the sample and qualitatively study the fearful style.

Key Words: narcissistic vulnerability, attachment style, insecure style, mother
