

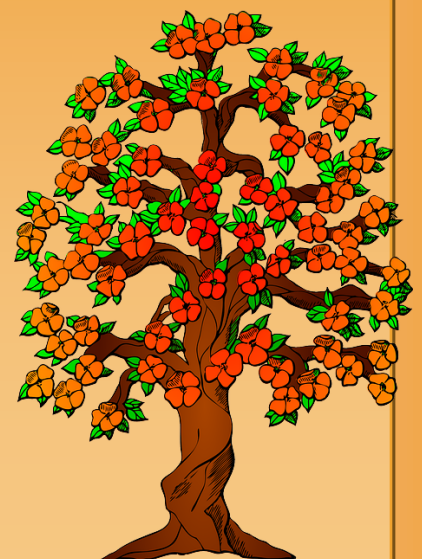


INTERPERSONAL ACCEPTANCE



Inside this Issue

Important Notice	2
Gender and Age Predict Adults' Affective Coping With Remem- brances of Parental Rejection in Childhood	3
REVIEW OF PARENTAL ACCEPTANCE-REJECTION: MEASURES AND RELATED CONSTRUCTS	7
International Conference Announcement	11
President's Invitation to the 6 th International Congress on Inter- personal Acceptance and Rejection	12
Posters	13
New Paths for Acceptance: Opening Awareness in Interpersonal Acceptance-Rejection	17
Nomination for Elected Office in the International Society for In- terpersonal Acceptance and Rejection closes Monday, October 12, 2015	19



Important Notice:



Early Abstract
Submissions for the
6th International
Congress on
Interpersonal Acceptance
-Rejection begins
September 28, 2015

<http://isiparmadrid2016.wix.com/isiparmadrid2016>



Gender and Age Predict Adults' Affective Coping With Remembrances of Parental Rejection in Childhood

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The capability to adapt to stress and life difficulties is a vital aspect of human development and functioning (Compas, Connor-Smith, Saltzman, Thomsen, & Wadsworth, 2001). Coping is a crucial construct that influences this adjustment process, which eventually leads to health and well-being. In terms of basic research, coping studies have produced abundant information about self-regulation related to emotions, cognitions, and behaviors (Eisenberg, Fabes, & Guthrie, 1997). From the perspective of applied research, knowledge about the basic nature and efficacy of coping has helped to inform a wide variety of interventions and treatments in mental health fields (Compas et al., 2001).

Coping has many definitions in social science and mental health fields (Compas et al., 2001). The most commonly cited definition is from Lazarus and Folkman (1984). These authors defined coping as “constantly changing cognitive and behavioral efforts to manage specific external and/or internal demands that are appraised as taxing or exceeding the resources of the person” (p. 141). Furthermore, coping is conceptualized as a goal-oriented process in which individuals direct their cognitions and behaviors toward goals to resolve the sources of stress, and to handle emotional responses to stress (Lazarus, 1993).

Coping effectively helps people produce many positive life outcomes, such as high achievement, being social, outgoing, humorous, cooperative, positive, engaging, and likeable (e.g., Berndt & Ladd, 1989; Masten, 1986; Van Breda, 2001). Additional profiles of resilient individuals who cope efficiently with adversities include characteristics such as high self-esteem, positive coping skills and problem-solving skills, good communication abilities, and high interpersonal relationship skills (Bogenschneider, 1996; Butler, 1997; Shure & Spivack, 1982; Werner & Smith, 1982).

Interpersonal acceptance-rejection theory (IPARTheory) acknowledges the importance of these factors in its coping subtheory. IPARTheory is an evidence-based theory of socialization and life-span development. The fundamental principle of IPARTheory's personality subtheory postulates that the psychological adjustment of human beings is likely to be affected in the same way by accepting-rejecting relationships with attachment figures, regardless of differences in race, gender, ethnicity, culture, or other such defining factors (Rohner, 2004). However, the psychological adjustment of some individuals who experience themselves to be seriously rejected by attachment figures (e.g., parents in childhood) is known to be less seriously impaired than it is among the majority of rejected individuals. These people are called *affective copers* in IPARTheory's coping subtheory.

The principal question asked in coping subtheory is: What gives some individuals (e.g., some adults) the resilience to emotionally withstand the corrosive effects of perceived rejection (e.g., by parents in childhood) more effectively than most rejected individuals? Thus coping subtheory provides a strength-based, positive-oriented perspective. It captures components of resilience among humans and their interpersonal relationships. Accordingly it provides insights into important factors associated with the process of affective coping. To date, however, minimal attention has been given to the empirical study of affective coping (Rohner et al., 2012). Recent research by Ki (2015), though, begins to remedy this problem. She explored seven questions pertaining to affective coping. These are: (1) What percent of adults in a large multicultural sample remember having been seriously rejected by one or both parents in childhood? (2) What percent of the adults who remember having been seriously rejected in childhood are affective copers—that is, tend to self-report positive psychological adjustment, in spite of experiencing serious parental rejection in childhood? (3) Does affective coping tend to vary significantly by (a) age or (b) gender? (4) Are there significant gender differences in male copers' and female copers' remembrances of maternal versus paternal acceptance in childhood? (5) To what extent is the psychological adjustment of male copers and female copers correlated with age and with remembrances of maternal versus paternal acceptance in childhood? (6) Do adults' remembrances of acceptance in childhood by one parent buffer (moderate) the effects of remembered rejection by the other parent? (7) Does perceived acceptance by one's adult intimate partner mediate the relationship between remembered parental rejection in childhood and the psychological adjustment of adult copers?

Computer files in the Rohner Center for the Study of Interpersonal Acceptance and Rejection at the University of Connecticut provided data for this study. In order to identify affective copers, quantitative data that contain results from the Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire (PARQ) and Personality Assessment Questionnaire (PAQ) were collected. In addition, data containing scores for the Intimate Adult Relationship Questionnaire (IARQ) were collected. Affective copers were operationally defined as those adults who score at or below 142 on the Adult PAQ, and who score at or above 140 on the Adult PARQ. These scores reveal the remembrances of serious parental (maternal and/or paternal) rejection in childhood, but positive self-reported psychological adjustment in adulthood.

Files in the Rohner Center yielded a total sample of 11,946 adults from 10 countries. Of these, 4,124 were men and 6,885 were women, excluding missing data. The mean age of adults was 25.57 years ($SD = 8.24$). Results showed that (1) there were 2,016 (16.88%) rejected individuals in the total sample of 11,946 adults multiculturally. (2) Eight hundred eleven (6.79%) of the adults in the total sample were affective copers. But 40.2% of the adults who felt rejected as children were also affective copers. (3a) Point biserial correlation results between age and coping showed that age was significantly but negatively correlated with coping ($r_{pb} = -.15, p < .01$): Younger adults tended to cope marginally better than older adults. (3b) A z-score calculation showed that there were significantly more female copers than male copers in the sample. That is, the sample of copers included 35.6% men and 64.4% women. In addition, an independent samples *t*-test examining gender differences in remembered maternal acceptance, paternal acceptance, and current psychological adjustment among copers showed that male copers remembered having experienced significantly more maternal acceptance in childhood than did female copers, $t(605) = -3.86, p < .001, d = .31, 95\% CI [-17.99, -5.86]$. Women remembered having perceived significantly more paternal acceptance than did men, $t(641) = 3.76, p < .001, d = .30, 95\% CI [4.71, 15.04]$. Because of these significant gender differences, all further analyses were conducted separately for men and women in this study. (4) Paired *t*-tests showed that

both male copers and female copers remembered having experienced significantly more maternal acceptance than paternal acceptance in childhood, $t(252) = -9.73, p < .001$ for male copers; $t(457) = -3.82, p < .001$ for female copers. (5) Results of correlational analysis showed that male copers' psychological adjustment correlated significantly with remembrances of maternal acceptance in childhood ($r = .31, p < .01$), and with age ($r = .14, p < .05$), but not with remembrances of paternal acceptance. Female copers' psychological adjustment, on the other hand, was significantly associated with both remembered maternal acceptance ($r = -.11, p < .05$) and paternal acceptance ($r = .18, p < .01$)—as well as with age ($r = -.10, p < .05$). (6) Results of multiple regression analysis showed that 14% of the variance in male copers' psychological adjustment and 7% of the variance in female copers' adjustment could be accounted for by a linear combination of all the variables in the study (i.e., maternal acceptance, paternal acceptance, and age). Results showed that for male copers, both maternal acceptance ($\beta = .39, p < .001$) and paternal acceptance ($\beta = .21, p < .01$) were unique and significant predictors of psychological adjustment. For female copers, neither remembrances of maternal acceptance nor paternal acceptance *by itself* was a significant predictor of psychological adjustment. However, age ($\beta = -.10, p < .05$) and an interaction between maternal and paternal acceptance ($\beta = .25, p < .001$) were significant predictors of psychological adjustment. The significant interaction was plotted, as shown in Figure 1. This graph shows that under the condition of high paternal acceptance, the intensity of the relation between remembered maternal rejection in childhood and female copers' psychological maladjustment *diminished*. But under the condition of high paternal rejection the intensity of the association between remembered maternal rejection in childhood and female copers' psychological maladjustment *intensified*. The same pattern appeared when the moderator was maternal acceptance. Finally, (7) results of path analysis showed that there was no mediation effect of current partner acceptance on the relationship between remembrances of parental acceptance and the psychological adjustment of copers.

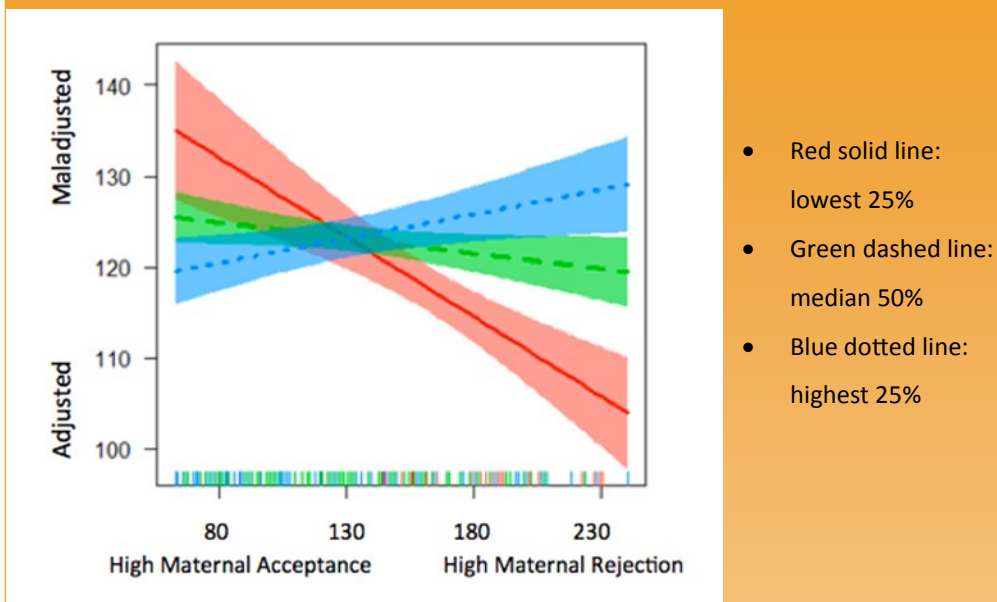


Figure 1. **Female Copers'** Remembrances of Paternal Acceptance Moderate the Relation Between Remembered Maternal Rejection and Their Psychological Adjustment.

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REVIEW OF PARENTAL ACCEPTANCE-REJECTION:

MEASURES AND RELATED CONSTRUCTS

J.L. Martorell & M.A. Carrasco, Editors SPECIAL ISSUE, *Acción Psicológica*, 11 (2), 2014



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The main goal of articles in this Special Issue was to analyze the psychometric properties of measures related to interpersonal acceptance-rejection theory (IPARTheory) in child and teenage Spanish populations. The theory is evidence-based, and aims to predict and explain consequences, causes, and other important correlates of interpersonal acceptance and rejection worldwide (Rohner, 2004; Rohner & Carrasco, 2014a).

Del Barrio, Ramírez-Uclés, Romero, & Carrasco analyzed the Spanish adaptation of the child version of the Parental Acceptance-Rejection/Control Questionnaire: Father and Mother forms (Child-PARQ/Control: Father and Mother, Rohner, 2005). The sample was composed of 469 Spanish children and adolescents. The sample included 45% males and 55% females. The age of participants ranged from 9 through 16 years. Even though the authors used the PARQ/Control, they analyzed only the four scales on the PARQ-portion of the measure. These scales include warmth/affection, hostility/aggression, indifference/neglect, and undifferentiated rejection. Results of confirmatory factor analysis (CFA) confirmed the goodness of psychometric properties as originally proposed by Rohner (2005) in the original four-factor model. Cronbach's alphas for the father version were the following: warmth/affection ($\alpha=.90$), hostility/aggression ($\alpha=.65$); indifference/neglect ($\alpha=.69$), and undifferentiated rejection ($\alpha=.63$). In the case of mothers, Cronbach's alphas were the following: Warmth/affection ($\alpha=.85$), hostility/aggression ($\alpha=.58$), indifference/

neglect ($\alpha=.68$), and undifferentiated rejection ($\alpha=.71$). The total Cronbach's alphas for both the mother version and the father version was $\alpha=.88$. Results confirmed that the psychometric properties were similar to the American version. Therefore, the authors concluded that researchers are able to use the Child PARQ in child and adolescent Spanish populations.

Carrasco, Holgado, and Delgado analyzed the constructs of interpersonal power and prestige using the Spanish version of Rohner's (2010) Parental Power-Prestige Questionnaire (3PQ). The concepts of interpersonal power and prestige help to explain how perceived parental power and prestige influence children's psychological adjustment (Carrasco & Rohner, 2013). More specifically, children's perceptions of parental power and/or prestige often moderate the relation between perceived parental acceptance and children's psychological adjustment. That is, the relation between perceived parental (either maternal or paternal) acceptance and children's adjustment often intensifies under the condition where fathers' (or mothers') interpersonal power and/or prestige is perceived by children to be greater than mothers' (or fathers') power and/or prestige (Rohner & Carrasco, 2014b). In the case of Spain, Carrasco, Holgado & del Barrio (2014) found that the impact of *paternal* acceptance on children's psychological adjustment was greater than maternal acceptance when fathers were perceived to have more prestige than mothers. Prestige was understood to be the social

recognition, esteem, respect, and admiration that one person (e.g., a child) has toward another (e.g., a parent). Inter-personal power was understood to be the ability one person has to influence the opinions and behaviors of another person.

The psychometric properties of the Spanish version of the 3PQ were analyzed using confirmatory factor analysis (CFA). Results of analyses confirmed the reliability and validity of the 3PQ for use in Spanish populations. These results were consistent with results in the original English-language model proposed by Rohner (2010). That is, CFA of the Spanish version showed the same power factor and prestige factor that emerged on the original English-language version of the 3PQ, as well as a second-order factor that considered prestige-power as a single dimension. Cronbach's alphas were as follows: Power dimension ($\alpha=.54$), Prestige dimension ($\alpha=.74$). Alpha for the total power-prestige scale was .78. There were no gender differences in the analysis. In future research, it would be useful to know more about the effects of social class in children's and adolescents' perceptions of paternal power and prestige.

González-Calderón, Rodríguez, and Suárez examined the psychometric properties and dimensionality of the Spanish version of the Father Involvement Scale (FIS; Finley & Schwartz, 2004) in relation to IPARTheory. The authors drew from a sample of 514 Spanish children and teenagers between the ages of 9 and 16 years. The majority of the participants were Caucasian, Catholic, and lived with their biological parents. CFA results evidenced two first-order factors: expressive and instrumental involvement, as well as another comprehensive factor: global parental involvement. Content and criterion validity and reliability were confirmed in the study. Cronbach's alpha were the following: Expressive Involvement ($\alpha=.87$), Instrumental Involvement ($\alpha=.62$). The reliability of the total global scale is $\alpha=.88$. These results were slightly inferior to the ones found in the original model proposed by Finley and Schwartz in which alphas were higher than .90 in the three factors mentioned above. Despite these minor differences, the authors concluded that results were comparable to the original model proposed by Finley and Schwartz.

The authors also found that when fathers were more involved (expressive involvement and instrumental involvement) in their children's lives, children perceived less parental rejection, especially in relation to their fathers. Similarly, when fathers were more involved in their children's development, children self-reported better psychological adjustment. Also, when fathers were more involved in their children's rearing, children perceived their fathers to have more prestige and power than their mothers. No gender differences were found in the analysis. All these results are consistent with IPARTheory (Rohner and Veneziano, 2001).

Finally, González-Calderón and Suárez conducted a study on the psychometric properties and dimensionality of the Spanish version of the Personality Assessment Questionnaire (PAQ) for children (PAQ; Rohner and Khaleque, 2005). Participants consisted of 469 Spanish children and adolescents between the ages of 9 and 16. The majority were Caucasian and lived with their biological parents. Data were analyzed using CFA. Results indicated similarities with the original model proposed by Rohner and Khaleque (2005). The analysis confirmed the presence of seven factors. These factors are explained by one superior factor known as psychological adjustment. Cronbach's alpha was .82 for the global score, whereas coefficients for the seven scales (factors) were: hostility ($\alpha=.71$), dependence ($\alpha=.66$), negative self-esteem ($\alpha=.54$), negative self-adequacy ($\alpha=.62$), low emotional responsiveness ($\alpha=.35$), emotional instability ($\alpha=.56$), and negative worldview ($\alpha=.53$).

In keeping with IPARTheory, results also confirmed that perceived mother and father rejection correlated significantly with all variables on the PAQ, except dependence. Also, as was expected, when fathers were involved in their children's development, these children self-reported a higher level of psychological adjustment than when fathers were less involved. Finally, the authors found that children's perceptions of their mothers' versus their fathers' self-reported power did not in itself affect children's psychological adjustment. However, when children perceived their fathers to have more prestige than mothers, children self-reported poorer psychological adjustment.

The authors in this Special Issue made important contributions to the development of IPARTheory and measures. One important feature of the Special Issue was that some of the studies followed guidelines proposed by The International Test Commission (ITC) for translating and adapting tests. Adapting psychological tests across cultures has become a common practice worldwide. In order to study clinical and other applied aspects of IPARTheory in multicultural populations, researchers need to make sure that translations are accurate, reliable, and valid so that they reflect the language of a particular sociocultural context.

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Wisdom Quotes:

Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.

Leo Buscaglia (Dr. Love), PhD

ANNOUNCING

ISIPAR's 6th International Conference



Please join us at the 6th International Congress on Interpersonal Acceptance and Rejection in Madrid, Spain, June 7-10, 2016 to help celebrate ISIPAR's 10th birthday since its founding in 2006.

For further information or to volunteer, contact Miguel Ángel Carrasco (macarrasco@psi.uned.es), Chair of the local organizing committee, or visit the Congress website

<http://isiparmadrid2016.wix.com/isiparmadrid2016>

President's Invitation to the 6th International Congress on Interpersonal Acceptance and Rejection



ISIPAR Congress, 2016

It is with great pleasure and excitement that I invite you to the 6th International Congress on the Interpersonal Acceptance and Rejection. As President of the International Society on Interpersonal Acceptance and Rejection (ISIPAR), I urge you to join us from the 7th through the 10th of June, 2016 in the beautiful city of Madrid, Spain.

The Society is quickly approaching its 10th anniversary and, therefore, all of us who have been a part of it over the last decade feel really satisfied with the way in which the organization continues to grow. In June 2016, the 6th International ISIPAR Congress will provide an opportunity to evaluate what we have accomplished and to also define goals for the next decade that help the Society fulfill its mission: to support and encourage research and practice related to issues of interpersonal acceptance and rejection.

I believe that the extraordinary work that the organizing committee is already doing to prepare this event will be reflected in an intellectually stimulating conference that will provide opportunities for research and practitioners from around the world to engage in enriching discussions around issues of interpersonal acceptance and rejection. I invite all ISIPAR members and other interested in the Society's mission to attend the Congress, and to participate actively in making it a success. Lastly, I would like all of us to encourage other researchers and practitioners who are not members to join the Society and attend the conference.

I hope to see you all in Madrid!!! (Espero verlos a todos en Madrid!!!)

Best wishes in this journey to our next meeting,

Karen Ripoll-Nuñez, Ph. D.

President, ISIPAR

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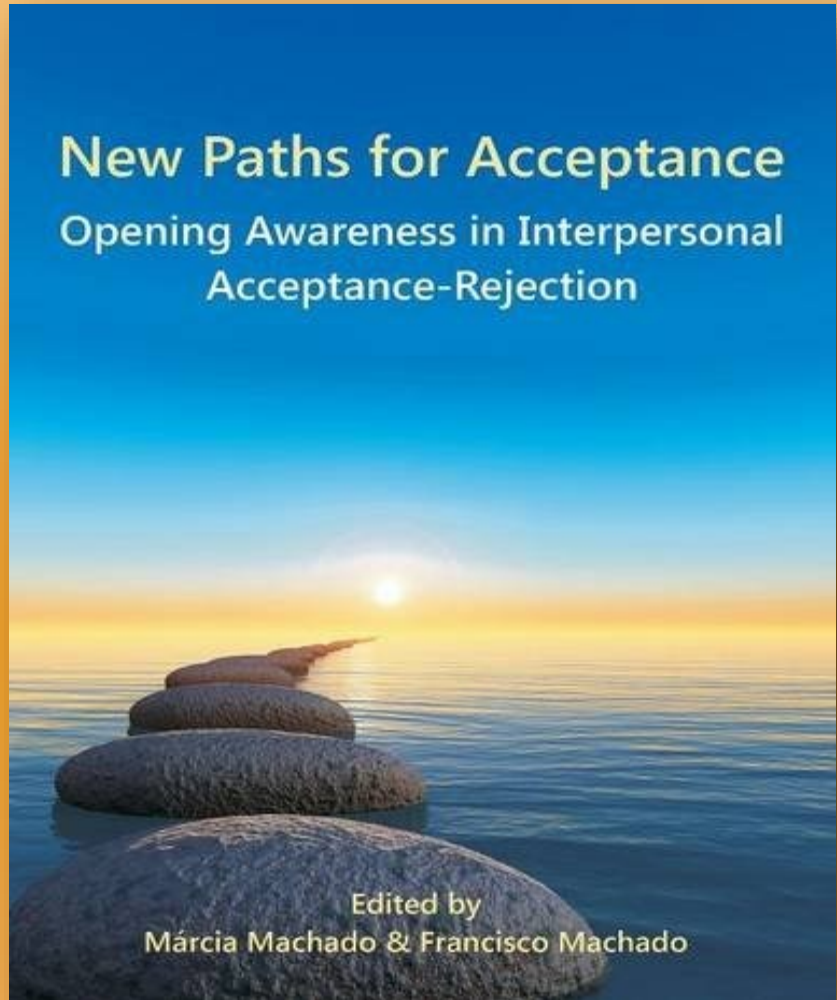
Márcia Machado & Francisco Machado (editors)

Abstract

New Paths for Acceptance: Opening Awareness in Interpersonal Acceptance-Rejection gathers global data from recent studies on interpersonal relationships. The book focuses specifically on the influence of perceived acceptance and rejection by significant others on children's, adolescents', and adults' well-being and development. In doing this, it offers valuable insight for academics, researchers, practitioners, teachers, and service agencies to better understand the importance of including the issue of "quality of interpersonal relationships" in their research, teaching, and clinical practice.

Based primarily on interpersonal acceptance-rejection theory (IPARTheory), the book broadens and advances scientific knowledge about fundamental issues such as psychological adjustment, masculinity, school and academic-related issues, family functioning, parental alienation, intimate adult relationships, and other such topics.

With contributions from researchers from three continents, the volume helps raise awareness about the crucial role that interpersonal acceptance plays across cultures on key issues such as these. The uncommon cultural diversity and multi-context nature of studies included in the book give readers the opportunity to learn about some of the most recent studies in this field, and at the same time to have a privileged view of the broad scope and application of IPARTheory and research.



Wisdom Quotes:

Happiness is when what you think, what you say, and what you do are in harmony.

Mahatma Gandhi

New Paths for Acceptance

Opening Awareness in Interpersonal Acceptance-Rejection



New Paths for Acceptance: Opening Awareness in Interpersonal Acceptance-Rejection gathers global data from recent studies on interpersonal relationships. The book focuses specifically on the influence of perceived acceptance and rejection by significant others on children's, adolescents', and adults' well-being and development. In doing this, it offers valuable insight for academics, researchers, practitioners, teachers, and service agencies to better understand the importance of including the issue of "quality of interpersonal relationships" in their research, teaching, and clinical practice.

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Nomination for Elected Office in the International Society for Interpersonal Acceptance and Rejection closes Monday, October 12, 2015



Soon ISIPAR will hold elections for the office of **President-Elect** and for a **Regional Representative** from each of the following regions of the world:

- **Central and South Africa**
- **Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean**
- **North Africa and the Middle East**
- **South America**
- **Southeast Asia**

Nominations for office (including self-nominations) are invited until **Monday, October 12, 2015**. Please send your nominations to Ronald P. Rohner (r.rohner@uconn.edu).

Provide an email address for your nominee, and specify which region of the world your nominee represents. Also, briefly describe the nominee's interest and background in interpersonal acceptance-rejection research and/or practice. Nominees do not have to be current ISIPAR members, but will have to join in order to be considered for office.