

## The Effects of Past Parental and Maternal Rejection in Childhood on Adults' Current Psychological Maladjustments: A Correlational and Comparative Study

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### Abstract

This study investigated perceived parental and maternal rejection (hostility \ aggression, indifference/neglect, and undifferentiated rejection), as experienced and remembered by adults, and its relationships to their current depression, anxiety and stress symptoms. In order to assess adults' perceptions of the degree of parental and maternal rejection received during childhood, a sample of two hundred and ninety-five (n=295) adults in Kuwait from six Kuwaiti governorates completed the Arabic version of the adults Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire (PARQ) Father & Mother versions, developed by (Rohner, Saaverda, & Granum, 1980) standardized in Arabic by Salama (1986a). In addition, the Depression- Anxiety- Stress Scales-42 (DASS-42) developed by Lovibond, and Lovibond (1995a) a version modified by, Lovibond, and Laube (2001) standardized in Arabic by, Moussawas used. The results indicated that males recalled their fathers' aggression and hostility and undifferentiated rejection more than females. In addition, perceived paternal rejection was found to be more influential than perceived maternal rejection. Moreover, the results indicated that there were low to moderate correlations between adults' current feelings of depression, anxiety, and stress with parental \maternal rejection. The findings recommend parents to modify their parenting styles to alleviate future psychological maladjustments in their children. In addition, this study provides some insight into the impact of perceived parental rejection on future psychological maladjustment in children.

**Keywords-** perceived maternal rejection, perceived parental rejection, depression, anxiety, stress

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### ملخص

قامت الدراسة ببحث الرفض الوالدي والامومي المدرك ممثلاً في العداوة/ العدوان واللامبالاة/ الإهمال والرفض غير المتميز كما خبره الراشدون وتذكروه وعلاقته بالأعراض الحالية للاكتئاب والقلق والضغوط. ولقياس إدراكات الراشدين لدرجات الرفض الوالدي والامومي الذي تلقوه أثناء الطفولة تمت دراسة عينة تتكون من 295 راشداً تم اختيارهم من ست محافظات في دولة الكويت، وطبقت الباحثة عليهم الصورة العربية من استبيان القبول والرفض الوالدي للكبار ( نسخة الأم - الأب ) PARQ من تصميم Rohner, Saaverda & Granum 1980 والتي أعدها باللغة العربية Salama, 1986a كما تم تطبيق مقياس الاكتئاب- التوافق- الضغوط DASS-42 من تصميم Lovibond & Lovibond, 1995a والنسخة التي قام Lovibond & Laube بتعديلها وأعداها باللغة العربية Moussa.

وقد أظهرت النتائج الدراسة ان الذكور اعلى من الاناث في إدراك الرفض الوالدي. بالإضافة إلى ذلك، تبين ان الرفض الأبوي أكثر تأثيراً من رفض الأمهات. وعلاوة على ذلك، أشارت النتائج إلى وجود ارتباطات احصائية منخفضة إلى معتدلة بين مشاعر البالغين الحالية من الاكتئاب والقلق والتوتر والرفض الوالدي كما يتذكره الابناء الكبار. من اهمية نتائج الدراسة الحالية يمكن أن تساعد في توصية الوالدين بتعديل أساليب والاتجاهات الوالدية للتقليل سوء التوافق النفسي والمشاكل السلوكية في المستقبل بالنسبة لأطفالهم عند الرشد. بالإضافة إلى ذلك، تلقي هذه الدراسة الضوء على تأثير الرفض الوالدي على سوء التوافق النفسي في المستقبل للابناء.

**الكلمات المفتاحية** - إدراك الرفض من قبل الام، إدراك الرفض الأبوي، الاكتئاب، القلق، التوتر

### *Introduction*

Both parents play a crucial role in the process of psychological development of their children. They adopt different techniques and styles to make their children acquire and refine necessary skills to meet the challenges of later psychological development, and thus enable them to grow as well-adjusted members of their society. Fathers and mothers may be loving or hostile and rejecting. Each pattern of parental behavior affects the psychological development of their children. Ineffective parenting practices characterized by abusive attitude that creates hurdles in healthy psychological adjustment development of children may pave the way for emergence of serious psychological maladjustments during later years (Proctor & Linley, 2013).

Andrews and Bonta, (2010) believed that, negative relationship between parents and children during childhood can adversely affect a child's psychological development and life as a whole. According to Rohner and Lansford (2017) children need positive response from their parents who provide emotional security and support to them in order for children to grow as emotionally stable adolescents and adults. Moreover, neurobiological studies such as in Eisenberger (2012); Eisenberger, Leiberman, and Williams, (2003) show evidence that emotional trauma due to perceived rejection in childhood by parents affects brain structure and function. Therefore, rejecting parents are likely to induce many psychological maladjustments in their children depending on the form, frequency, duration, and intensity of perceived rejection (Rohner, 2016).

Rejection at any age can be devastating. However, one can reasonably deduce that the earlier it takes place the worse it effects individuals. It can be safely assumed that rejection before the age of three will have the strongest and most lasting effects. There are many people who will suffer psychologically from being rejected by one or both parents. According to Rohner (2016) parental and maternal rejection defined as the absence or withdrawal of love by a variety of hurtful behaviors such as aggression and hostile, or indifference, neglect, and rejection. Moreover, parental and maternal rejection is defined as a cluster of parent behaviors associated with unresponsiveness, and disapproval of the child (Muris, Schmidt, Lambrichs, & Meesters, 2004).

Rohner (2016) asserts that children are likely to be affected in four ways when they perceive themselves to be rejected by one parent or both. First being, "cold and unaffectionate", means the lack of expressing physical emotional warmth such as hugging, kissing, smiling, approving glances, etc., or verbal (e.g., saying good words to the child, etc.). Second being, "hostile and aggressive" referring to hostile feelings,

which means that parents feel anger, hate, bad intention or grudge and resulting physical (e.g., beating, pushing, etc.), and verbal (e.g., insulting, and criticizing, etc.) and aggressive behaviors.

Third being, “indifference and neglect”, which means that parents are not sufficiently interested in the child’s physical, educational, social or emotional needs by being physically or psychologically unresponsive or inaccessible. And lastly, fourth being, “undifferentiated rejection” is defined as “the children’s belief that parents do not care about or that they do not love them, even though there is no clear behavioral sign that parents neglect them or are unaffectionate or aggressive towards them (Rohner, 2016).

Rohner(2016) stated that, hostile parents are likely to be aggressive either verbally or physically, while indifferent parents are likely to be physically or psychologically remote or inaccessible to the child. Both forms of rejection are likely to induce the feeling of being rejected. Duman and Margolin, (2007) believed that parental and maternal aggression can be physically hostile infringements on the individual possessions and hitting. Kuterovac-Jagodic, and Kerestes, (1997) found that total aggression score of adults was predicted by their father’s undifferentiated rejection, and their verbal aggression was related with father’s hostility and aggression.

Rejection might often contribute to pre-existing conditions such as stress, anxiety and depression or lead to their development. Some research have associated parental and maternal rejection with depression and anxiety symptoms in children such as (Rohner, Khaleque, & Cournoyer ,2012; Campos, Avi, & Sidne ,2013; Dwairy ,2010; Munaf & Sardar ,2010 )

Rohner et al., (2012) have provided evidence of children who perceived parental and maternal rejection develop different psychopathologies including depression, anxiety, aggression, hostility, negative worldview and feelings of inadequacy. Also, they stated that these rejected children will develop maladjusted personality later on life.

Moreover, Campos, et al.,(2013) study indicated that recalling parental rejection is significantly associated with depressive symptoms in adults. Dwairy (2010) stated that, there is evidence that remembered parental and maternal rejection is associated with psychological maladjustment of adults, and with many mental disorders that emerge in adulthood, primarily depression and substance abuse.

In addition, Munaf and Sardar (2010) found that perceptions of early parental and maternal rejection have significant positive correlation with depressive state in adulthood. They report that when parental rejection increased, the level of depressive states also increased and

increased parental emotional warmth during childhood has led to decreased depressive symptoms in adulthood.

Numerous of early longitudinal studies showed that perceived parental and maternal rejection in childhood tends to precede the development of depressive symptoms in adolescence and adulthood (Chen, Rubin, & Li, 1995; Ge, Best, Conger, & Simons, 1996; Lefkowitz & Tesiny, 1984; Peterson, Sarigiani, & Kennedy, 1991; Robertson & Simons, 1989). For adults' maladjustment Rapee (1997) study predicted that perceived parental and maternal rejection in childhood would relate to depression in adulthood.

Moreover, for adults studies implied that perceived parental and maternal rejection is associated with higher levels of anxiety during an individuals' life such as (Festa & Ginsburg, 2011; Giaouzi & Giovazolias, 2015; Hummel & Gross, 2001; Rohner, 2014; Rohner & Khaleque, 2005). According to Giaouzi and Giovazolias (2015) adults who experience interpersonal anxiety tend to rate their parents as less warm, caring and dismissive than adults without interpersonal anxiety.

In addition, according to Lindhout, Markus, Hoogendijk, Borst, Maingay, Spinhoven, van Dyck, & Boer (2006) parental and maternal rejection lead to anxiety disorders.

Studies have found correlations between individuals' perceptions of parental and maternal rejection and their levels of depression, anxiety as in studies like (Ahmed & Khalil, 1999; Faied, 2000). Results of these studies revealed that individuals' perceptions of perceived parental rejection correlated significantly with high levels of depression, and anxiety. Moreover, As reported by participants' in Shafi and Bhutto (2006) study their perceived father's over protection and parental rejection were positively related with their higher level of anxiety as compared to low parental rejection.

Many studies have observed gender differences in adults' perceived parental and maternal rejection. Hussain and Munaf (2012) found that adult male perceived their fathers, to be more aggressive, more neglecting, more rejecting as compared to females. Also, Hussain, Alvi, Zeeshan, and Nadeem, (2013) As in Najam and Kausar (2012) reported that males in their sample perceived to be more rejected by their father during their childhood than female participants.

Several studies in Middle East have addressed children's perceived parental and maternal rejection in relation to their psychological problems such as (Salama, 1984; Abdel-Razek, 1996; Abdel-Rahman, 2003; Khalifa, 2003). The results of these studies indicate that children who perceive their parents as more rejecting tend to suffer from more

psychological maladjustments' problems than those who feel more accepted by their parents.

However, limited studies have looked and examined specific domains of parenting and specific indicators of adults' maladjustment and risk-taking behaviors (Aquilino & Supple, 2001; Clawson & Reese-Weber, 2003). Thus, adults' perceived paternal and maternal rejection contributions to adult' current psychosocial outcomes such as depression, anxiety and stress must be studied (Pleck & Masciadrelli, 2004). Such analyses would provide information about mothers' and fathers' unique parenting styles can contribute to adult' psychological maladjustments in later life (Stolz, Barber, & Olsen, 2005).

Parental rejection affects childhood and other periods of life . Parental rejection causes numerous psychological maladjustments Rohner et al. (2012). Other research studies have showed that individuals' when they feel rejected by parents, would manifest internalizing and externalizing problem behavior, such as feelings of depression and to have a negative image of the future as in (Kim et al. 2003; Nolan, Flynn, & Garber, 2003; as cited in Adumitroaie, & Dafinoiu, 2013). Therefore, it is considered that current psychological maladjustments and functioning of an individual can be better evaluated by better understanding of the child -parents' relationships. Thus, this study add to scientific work by assessing whether established parental and maternal styles from childhood such as rejecting could predict current psychological maladjustment of depressive, anxious and stress symptoms in their life.

This study aimed at knowing the effects of maternal and paternal rejection on adults' psychological maladjustment. Therefore, this study investigated perceived parental and maternal rejection such as hostility \ aggression, indifference/neglect, and undifferentiated rejection, as experienced and remembered by adults, and its relations to their current feelings of depression, anxiety and stress.

***objectives***

- 1- Studying the differences in adults' perceived father's rejection in a Kuwaiti sample
- 2- Studying the differences in adults' perceived mother's rejection) in a Kuwaiti sample
- 3- Studying the association between perceived maternal rejection and adults' current feelings of depression, anxiety and stress in a Kuwaiti sample.
- 4- Studying the association between perceived parental rejection and adults' current feelings of depression, anxiety and stress in a Kuwaiti sample.

- 5- Studying the association between adults' perceived rejection and Depression-Anxiety- stress in a Kuwaiti sample
- 6- Studying the association between PARQ-Father\mother, DASS-42 Subscales and demographic variables such as age, gender educational level, occupation, marital status, birth order

### ***Hypotheses***

The researcher hypothesized that there will be gender differences in perceived paternal rejection as remembered by males' adults in the state of Kuwait than maternal rejection. Further, parental and maternal rejection as remembered by adults would be associated inversely with feelings of depression, anxiety, and stress. Additionally, the statement of the problem of the study can be summarized in the following questions:

1. There are statistically significant gender differences in adults' perceived father's rejection on the Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaires -father version (PARQ-F) three subscales (i.e., aggression\ hostility, neglect\ indifference, and undifferentiated rejection) in a Kuwaiti sample,
2. There are statistically significant gender differences in adults' perceived mother's rejection in the Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaires, mother' version (PARQ-M) three subscales (i.e., aggression\ hostility, neglect\ indifference, and undifferentiated rejection) in a Kuwaiti sample,
3. There are statistically correlations between perceived maternal rejection subscales and adults' current feelings of depression, anxiety and stress in a Kuwaiti sample,
4. There are statistically correlations between perceived parental rejection subscales and adults' current feelings of depression, anxiety and stress in a Kuwaiti sample,
5. There are statistically correlations between adults' perceived PARQ-mother\Father three subscales (i.e., aggression\ hostility, neglect\ indifference, and undifferentiated rejection) and DASS-42 three subscales (Depression-Anxiety- stress) in a Kuwaiti sample,
6. There are statistically correlations between PARQ-Father\mother, DASS-42 Subscales and demographic variables such as age, gender educational level, occupation, marital status, birth order in a Kuwaiti sample.

### **Methodology**

#### ***Research Design***

Quantitative research technique was used in this study. The current study was a comparative and correlational research.

**Sample**

Two hundred ninety-five (n = 295) respondents ages eighteen (18) through fifty (50) years old participated in this study. Of these, hundred twenty-one (n = 121), Table

(1) Comparison of males and females in age.

Variable	Females M	Females SD	Males M	Males SD	T. value	Significance level
Age	28.25	7.34	28.29	&.53	0.04	-

Table (1) showed that there are no significant differences between the two groups of the study in chronological age.

Table (2) Comparison of the two groups of the study in gender.

Gender	Frequency	Percentage
Females	174	59%
Males	121	41%
Total	295	100%

Table (2) Showed That females constitute (59%) of the total sample of the study, whereas males constitute (41%) of the total sample.

Table (3) Comparison of the two groups of the study in governorate.

Governorate	Females Frequency	Females Percentage	Males Frequency	Males Percentage	X2
Alasimah	36	20.11%	24	19.83%	19.98 Non-significant
Hawali	14	8.05%	10	8.26%	
Alfarawaniah	31	17.24%	21	17.36%	
Mubarak Alkabeer	35	20.11	25	20.66%	
AlAhmadi	24	13.79%	17	14.05%	
AlGahraa	34	19.54%	24	19.84%	
Total	174	100%	121	100%	

Table (3) showed that there are no significant differences between the two groups of the study in governorate.

Table (4) Comparison of the two groups of the study in the level of education

Level of education	Females Frequency	Females Percentage	Males Frequency	Males Percentage	X2
Elementary	7	4.02%	5	4.13%	23.5 N.S.
Intermediate	14	8.05%	9	7.44%	
Secondary	31	17.82%	22	18.18%	
Diploma	35	20.11%	24	19.83%	
University	82	47.13%	57	47.11%	



Master Phd	5	2.87%	4	3.31%	
Total	174	100%	121	100%	

Table (4) showed that there are no significant differences between the two groups of the study in educational level.

Table (5) Comparison of the two groups of the study in occupation

Occupation	Females Frequency	Females Percentage	Males Frequency	Males Percentage	X2
Unemployed	17	9.77%	12	9.92%	
Student	80	45.98%	56	46.28%	
Public employee	64	36.78%	43	35.54%	23.6 N.S.
Private employee	7	4.02%	5	4.13%	
Retired	6	3.45%	5	4.13%	
Total	174	100%	121	100%	

Table (5) showed that there are no significant differences between the two groups of the study in occupation.

Table (6) Comparison of the two groups of the study in marital status

Marital status	Females Frequency	Females Percentage	Males Frequency	Males Percentage	X2
Single	77	44%	54	45%	
Married	80	46%	56	46%	
Divorced	10	6%	7	6%	21.7 N.S.
Separated	3	2%	1	1%	
Widow	4	2%	3	2%	
Total	174	100%	121	100%	

Table (6) showed that there are no significant differences between the two groups of the study in marital status.

#### *Instruments*

1-Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaires Adults version (PARQ) developed by (Rohner, Saaverda, & Granum, 1980) translated in Arabic by Salama (1986 a) were used. PARQ consists of 60 statements in which adults rated their parents' accepting -rejecting rearing behaviors using a 4-point Likert scale ("almost always true" = 4, "sometimes true" = 3, "rarely true" = 2, and "almost never true" = 1), higher scores reflecting higher overall rejection.

This Questionnaire asks adults to reflect on the way they were treated when they were at the age of about 7 to 12 years old. The participants assessed parental and maternal behaviors in terms of four dimensions: (1) perceived warmth and affection,

(2) perceived Hostility / aggression: It is the emotional reaction internally that is directed towards self or a person including anger/aggression or any act that causes hurt physically or psychological to others.

(3) perceived indifference \neglect It is the unavailability of parents physically as well as psychologically in a sense that parents do not give attention to their children.(4) perceived undifferentiated rejection It is child's feeling of being unloved, uncared for, and unappreciated by parents.

The PARQ Mother and Father versions, each comprising 60 items, differ only in which parent they refer to (he \she). The PARQ consists of four scales each measure provides an overall rating and scores on four parental behavioral domains: (1) warmth\affection index consist of 20 items (e.g., "Said nice things about me", "my mother\father used to make me feel proud when I do a good job ");(2) aggression\ hostility index consist of 15 items (e.g., "Ridiculed and made fun of me") , (3) neglect\indifference index consists of 15 items (e.g., "Paid no attention when I asked for help"), and(4) undifferentiated rejection index consist of 10 items( e.g., "Did not really love me").

Overall,the Adult PARQ rejection scores range from 60-120, with scores below the midpoint of 75 indicating recollections of more acceptance than rejection in childhood, and scores above the midpoint indicating more recalled rejection than acceptance. The higher the score, the more rejection adults tend to experience. The lower the score, the more acceptance adults tend to experience.

The Mother and Father versions of the PARQ have been validated cross-culturally with robust reliability and validity findings including internal consistencies exceeding .70 for the overall scores and the four domains (Khaleque & Rohner, 2004; Rohner & Couroyer, 1994). Similarly, the Arabic PARQ has shown appropriate internal consistencies (Salama, 1986 b).

***Internal Reliability of the Instruments***

In the present study sample of N=295, internal reliability of the Arabic PARQ was assessed the Arabic PARQ for both versions have excellent reliabilities. (1)The Arabic PARQ mother's version (60) items were  $\alpha = .83$ , and for the subscales were as follows as shown in Table 7.

**Table 7. Internal Reliability Alpha Cronbach's of the Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire Adults version (PARQ) -Mother' version and its three Subscales**

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Items	N	Alpha Cronbach's
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(PARQ) -Mother' version	60	.83
<b>PARQ-M Subscales</b>		
1- aggression\ hostility	15	.91
2- neglect \ indifference	15	.85
3- undifferentiated rejection	10	.83

(2) The Arabic PARQ father' version consist of (60) items were alpha =.81; For the PARQ subscales as shown in Table 8

**Table8. Internal Reliability Alpha Cronbach's of the Parental Acceptance-Rejection Questionnaire Adults version (PARQ) -Father' version and its three Subscales**

Items	N	Alpha Cronbach's
(PARQ) -Father' version	60	.81
<b>PARQ-F Subscales</b>		
1- aggression\ hostility	15	.91
2- neglect \ indifference	15	.80
3- undifferentiated rejection	10	.81

(1) The aggression\ hostility-F subscale consists of (15) were alpha =.91,

(2) The neglect\ indifference-F subscale consists of (15) were alpha =.80

(3) The undifferentiated rejection-F scale consists of (10) items were alpha =.81

2-The Depression, Anxiety, and Stress Scales-42(DASS-42)developed by Lovibond, and Lovibond (1995a) translated in to Arabic version by Moussa, Lovibond, and Laube, (2001). The DASS is a 42-item self-report instrument designed to measure the three related negative emotional states of depression, anxiety and stress.Each of the three DASS-42 scales contains 14 items.

Each of thesesubscales is rated on a four-point Likert scale of frequency or severity of theparticipants' experiences over the last week with the intention of emphasizing states over traits. These scores ranged from zero (0)"did not apply to me at all", to three(3)"apply to me very much, or most of the time".

The psychometric properties of the DASS-42 have been demonstrated to be good in numerous studies (Antony Bieling, Cox, Enns, &Swinson, 1998; Lovibond, 1998; Lovibond & Lovibond, 1995b). Factor analytic studies have confirmed that the DASS items can be reliably grouped into three scales, namely Depression, Anxiety, and Stress, in both nonclinical (Lovibond & Lovibond, 1995a) and clinical samples (Brown Chorpita, Korotitsch, & Barlow,1997).DASS-42

Scoring: The maximum score of the DASS-42 is 42 in each of depression, anxiety, and stress scales. Lower scores are better (Lovibond & Lovibond, 1995a).

(1) The Depression subscale assessed dysphoria (is a medically recognized mental and emotional condition in which a person experiences intense feelings of depression, discontent, and in some cases indifference to the world around them (Abbess, 2018), hopelessness, devaluation of life, self-deprecation (undervaluing oneself) (Dictionary reference, 2018), lack of interest, and lack of involvement, anhedonia (the inability to experience pleasure from activities usually found enjoyable, (e.g. exercise, hobbies, social interactions enjoyable behavior), such as motivation or desire to engage in an activity (Treadway & Zald, 2011), and inertia (can be defined as resistance to change, formalized as the degree to which a person's current emotional state can be predicted by the person's emotional state at a previous moment (Kuppens, Allen, & Sheeber, 2010)).

(2) The Anxiety subscale assessed autonomic arousal (A general state of physiological arousal associated with what is commonly referred to as the "fight or flight syndrome" (Bruns, Disorbio, 2003), skeletal muscle effects, situational anxiety is a state of apprehension, discomfort, and anxiety precipitated by the experience of new or changed situations or events. Situational anxiety is not abnormal and requires no treatment; it usually disappears as the person adjusts to the new experience. (Mosby, 2013), and subjective experience of anxious affect.

(3) The Stress subscale is sensitive to levels of chronic non-specific arousal. It assesses difficulty relaxing, nervous arousal, and being easily upset/agitated, irritable/over-reactive, and impatient.

Standardization and norms of DASS-42, Lovibond and Lovibond (1995a) reported the reliability of the scales Cronbach's alpha scores rate the Depression scale at .91, the Anxiety scale at 0.84 and the Stress scale at .90 in the normative sample.

***Internal Reliability of the DASS-42 items***

In this study Internal reliability was excellent of the for the DASS-42 items were  $\alpha = .96$ ; and for the three subscales were as follows as shown in Table 9

**Table 9 Internal Reliability Alpha Cronbach's of the Depression, Anxiety, and Stress Scales-42 (DASS-42) and its three Subscales**

<i>Items</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Alpha Cronbach's</i>
DASS-42	242	.96
<b><i>DASS-42 Subscales</i></b>		
1- The DASS-D, Depression	13	.91

2-The DASS-A, Anxiety	14	.90
3- The DASS-S, Stress	15	.92

(1) The DASS-D, Depression subscale (13) items,  $\alpha = .91$

(2) The DASS-A, Anxiety items subscale (14) items  $\alpha = .90$

(3) The DASS-S, Stress subscale (15) items  $\alpha = .92$ .

### **Data Analyses**

Data analyses were conducted by using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS version 23) program. Internal reliability of the Arabic PARQ (Mother\Father) and the Arabic DASS-42 were assessed by means of alpha Cronbach's. Descriptive statistics (Means and standard deviations, frequencies) was conducted, and independent samples t-tests comparing means for gender were conducted. In addition, Multiple Regression were examined.

### **Procedure**

A total of Two hundred ninety-five respondents ages eighteen (18) through fifty (50) years old participated in this study. They were all Kuwaitis among them onehundred twenty -one (n =121) were males, and one hundred seventy- four (n = 174) were females . The study sample were selected from Kuwait six governates (see Table 1.). Further, the study sample were selected by random sampling technique. All the questionnaires were distributed to the participants in closed envelopes and were later collected in the same manner in the Kuwaiti six governates (see Table 1.).

Instruction written in the questionnaires were as follows:First, they were informed of the purpose of the present study. Then they were requested to fill demographic information Form. After the participants were asked to fill out the study two questionnaires without any identifying marks. Respondents were instructed to read the items of the scales attentively and to respond carefully. All necessary clarifications were made regarding the items. They were asked to give tick ( $\checkmark$ ) mark in the appropriate box. They were also requested not to omit any item in the questionnaire and told that there was no right and wrong answer and no time limit for answering. All questionnaires took about five to fifteen minutes by each participant to complete it. All the data were collected within one to three months.

### **Results**

To answer study question number one "Are there significant gender differences in adults' perceptions of perceived father's rejection PARQ-Father version three subscales (i.e., aggression\ hostility\neglect\indifferences, and undifferentiated rejection subscales)?" Independent Samples t-Tests were computed, results were as follows:

***Results for Gender & PARQ-Father version***

***Results for aggression\hostility and gender differences father version (father version)***

Table 10 show, there was significant difference between gender and PARQ-Father's aggression\hostility subscale scores. Males ( $M=28.57, SD=9.982$ ), and female ( $M=25.46, SD=9.714$ ). The assumption of homogeneity of variances was tested and satisfied via Levene's F test ( $F(293) = .053, p = 2.675$ ). The Independent Samples t-Test was associated with a statistically significant effect, ( $t(293) = 2.675, p = .008$  significant level). Thus, males are slightly affected by remembrance of their fathers' aggression and hostility than females.

***Results for Neglect \indifferences subscale and gender differences (father version)***

Table 10. show there was not a significant difference between gender (males and females) and PARQ – F Neglect \indifferences scores as shown in Table 5. Males ( $M=28.89, SD=7.298$ ), and female ( $M=28.10, SD=8.448$ ). The assumption of homogeneity of variances was tested and satisfied via Levene's F test ( $F(293) = .506, p = .478$ ). The Independent Samples t-Test was not statistically significant effect, ( $t(293) = .840, p = .402$  ns). Thus, the results show that there were not significance differences among gender and remembrance of their fathers' Neglect \indifferences subscale.

***Results for undifferentiated rejection subscale and gender differences (father version)***

As shown in Table 10., there was gender differences between males and females and the PARQ – F undifferentiated rejection subscale scores. Males ( $M=19.66, SD=6.935$ ), and female ( $M=17.92, SD=6.455$ ). The assumption of homogeneity of variances was tested and satisfied via Levene's F test ( $F(293) = .508, p = .478$ ). The Independent Samples t-Test was associated with a statistically significant effect, ( $t(293) = 2.211, p = .028$ ). Thus, males are slightly affected by remembrance of their fathers' undifferentiated rejection than females.

These results showed that males' in this sample recalled their fathers' aggression and hostility and undifferentiated rejection more than females. However, for the ***neglect \indifferences subscale scores and gender differences*** there was not any significant difference among gender. Considering these findings, it has been observed that the male participants perceived their father as hostile and rejecting than female participants.

***Table 10 Independent Samples t-Test Results comparing Males & Females on PARQ (Father Version) Subscales***

	Males n = 121		Females n = 174		df	t-test	p
	M	SD	M	SD			
Aggression\ hostility	28.57	9.982	25.46	9.714	293	2.675	.008
Neglect \indifferences	28.89	7.298	28.10	8.443	293	.840	.402 ns
Undifferentiated rejection	19.66	6.935	17.92	6.455	293	2.211	.028

\*\*p < 0.01. Note: M = Mean, SD = Standard Deviation, df = degrees of freedom, ns = not significant

#### ***Results for Gender & PARQ-Mother version***

Further, to answer study question number two "Are there significant between gender differences and adults' perceived mother' rejection subscales (i.e., aggression\ hostility neglect \indifferences, and undifferentiated rejection)?" Independent Samples t-Test was computed, and results were as follows:

#### ***Results for aggression\hostility and gender differences (mother version)***

there was not a significant difference between gender and PARQ-Mother's aggression\hostility subscales scores, Males (M=28.73, SD=10.73), and female (M =28.16. SD =9.848). As shown in Table 11 for the PARQ-Mother' aggression \hostility subscale, the assumption of homogeneity of variances was tested and satisfied via Levene's F test (293) =.099, p =.753 ns. The Independent Samples t-Test was associated with a statistically significant effect, (t (293) =.481, p = .631 ns).

#### ***Results for neglect \indifferences subscale and gender differences (mother version)***

There was not significant difference between gender and PARQ-Mother's Neglect \indifferences subscale scores, Males (M=26.97, SD=7.942), and female (M =26.94 SD 8.459).

Moreover, Table 11. show the following for the Neglect \indifferences subscale, the assumption of homogeneity of variances was tested and satisfied via Levene's F test (293) .605, p =.437. The Independent Samples t-Test was associated with a statistically significant effect, t (293) =.031, p = .975 ns.

#### ***Results for undifferentiated rejection subscale and gender differences (mother version)***

there was not a significant difference between gender and PARQ-Mother's undifferentiated rejection subscale scores, Males

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(M=19.63,SD=7.203), and female (M =19.28,SD = 6.610).For the undifferentiated rejection subscale,the assumption of homogeneity of variances was tested and satisfied via Levene's F test (293) .1.633, p =.202. The Independent Samples t-Test was associated with a statistically significant effect, (t (293) =.434, p = .665 ns).

The results above show that there were no gender differences between males and females on the PARQ – M subscales as shown in Table 11.

**Table 11 Independent t-Test Samples Results Comparing Males & Females on PARQ (Mother Version) Subscales**

	Males n = 121		Females n = 174		df	t-test	p
	M	SD	M	SD			
Aggression\ hostility	28.73	10.73	28.16	9.848	293	.481	.631ns
Neglect \indifferences	26.97	7.942	26.94	8.459	293	.031	.975ns
Undifferentiated rejection	19.63	7.203	19.28	6.610	293	.434	.665ns

\*\*p < 0.01. Note: M = Mean, SD = Standard Deviation, df = degrees of freedom, ns = not significant

Summary of gender differences, results above showed that males' in this sample recalled their fathers' aggression and hostility and undifferentiated rejection more than females. However, for the *Neglect \indifference father subscale scores and gender differences* there was not any significant difference among gender. Considering these findings, it has been observed that the male participants perceived their father as hostile and indifferent than female participants. Moreover, there were no gender differences between males and females on the PARQ – M subscales as shown in Table 11.

***Results for DASS-42 subscales & Gender***

To answer study question number three "Are there significance gender differences and DASS-42 three subscales (Depression-Anxiety-stress) in the state of Kuwait? Independent Samples t-Tests were computed, and results were as follows:

***Results for Depression subscale and gender differences***

there was not a significant difference between gender and the DASS-42 depression scores subscale, Males (M=10.19, SD=8.982), and female (M =11.61. SD = 9.858). Independent samples t-test was conducted to explore gender differences and the DASS-42 Subscales, results showed there was not a significant difference between males and females on the Depression subscale scores. The assumption of



homogeneity of variances was tested and satisfied via Levene's F test (293).617,  $p = .433$ . The Independent Samples t-Test was not associated with a statistically significant effect,  $t(293) = -1.261$ ,  $p = .127$ . These results suggest that adults' perceived maternal rejection among gender do not have effect on current feelings of depression.(see Table 12.)

#### **Results for Anxiety subscale and gender differences**

As shown in Table 12. There was not a significant difference between gender and the DASS-42 anxiety subscalescores, Males ( $M=8.69$ ,  $SD=7.937$ ), and female ( $M =10.09$  .  $SD =8.824$ ). As shown in Table 12, the assumption of homogeneity of variances was tested and satisfied via Levene's F test (293). 105,  $p = .746$ . The Independent Samples t-Test was not associated with a statistically significant effect, = (  $t(293) = -1.388$ ,  $p = .166$  ns ). These results suggest gender do not have effect on current feelings of anxiety.

#### **Results for Stress subscale and gender differences**

Table12. show there was not a significant difference between genderand the DASS-42 Stress subscalescores, Males ( $M=12.11$ ,  $SD=9.409$ ), and female ( $M =13.91$  .  $SD= 10.362$ ).As shown in Table 7, the assumption of homogeneity of variances was tested and satisfied via Levene's F test (293) .617,  $p = .377$ . The Independent Samples t-Test was not associated with a statistically significant effect=, (  $t(293) = -1.261$ ,  $p = .208$  n s ).

These results suggest that gender do not have effect on current feelings of Stress.These results suggest that gender really do not have an effect on adults' currents psychological maladjustment of feelings depression,anxiety, and stress as shown in Table 12.

**Table 12. Independent t-Test Samples Results Comparing Males & Females on DASS-42 Subscales**

	Males		Females		df	t-test	p
	M	SD	M	SD			
Depression	10.198	9.821	11.61	9.858	293	-1.261	.127
Anxiety	8.697	7.937	10.098	8.824	293	-1.388	.166
Stress	12.119	9.409	13.911	10.362	293	-1.261	.208

\*\* $p < 0.01$ . Note: M = Mean, SD = Standard Deviation, df = degrees of freedom

Furthermore, Multiple regression analysis was conducted to answer study to number three "Were there association between perceived maternal rejection and adults' current feelings of depression,

anxiety and stress?"; and question number four "Were there association between perceived parental rejection and adults' current feelings of depression, anxiety and stress?" results were as follows:

**Results of PARQ-Mother version Subscales & DASS-42 Subscales**

**Results for aggression\hostility (mother version)**

Multiple Regression analysis of DASS-42 subscales on PARQsubscales Mother is shown in Table 8. The value of adjusted R<sup>2</sup> (adjusted R<sup>2</sup> = 0.098, F (3,291)= 11.668, p < 0.01) of Table 13. indicated that the model explained 9.8% of the variance in DASS-Depression subscale. Table 13. show there was not significant difference between predictor variable (Depression) and PAQ-M aggression\hostility subscale, Standardized beta coefficients (β) (Beta = -.013, t (294) -.116, p >.908 ns). Moreover, the analysis shows predictor variable (Depression) was significantly predict of mother's Neglect \indifferences (Beta =.338, t (294) 3.881, p < .001). However, Table 13 show that Depression was not significantly associated with PARQ-Mother's Undifferentiated rejection at (Beta = -.072, t (294) -.668, p >.505 ns).

This result indicates that adults' current feelings of Depression was not associated with adults' perceived Mother' aggression\hostility, orMother's Undifferentiated rejection. Though the results showed that adults' current feelings of Depression were associated with adults' perceived mother' Neglect \indifferences as shown in Table 13

**Table 13. Regression Analysis of DASS-42: Depression Subscale on PARQ:Mother Three Sub Scales**

Predictor variables	Unstandardized coefficient		Standardized β	t	P
	B	SE			
Constant	1.245	1.820	-	.684	.494
<b>PARQ: Mother</b>					
Aggression\hostility	-.012	.104	-.013	-.116	.908ns
Neglect \indifferences	.448	.115	.388	3.881	.001
Undifferentiated rejection-	.100	.150	-.072	-.668	.505ns

Note.Adjusted R<sup>2</sup> = 0.098, F (3,291)= 11.668, p < 0.01). ns =not significant

**Results for DASS-42 anxiety Subscale and perceived mother' aggression\hostility, and Neglect \indifferences, and Undifferentiated rejection**

Multiple Regression analysis of DASS-42 three subscales of PARQ: Mother three subscales.Table 14. show the value of adjusted R<sup>2</sup> (adjusted R<sup>2</sup> = .111, F (3,291)= 12.139, p < 0.01) of Table14. indicated

that the model explained 10.2% of the variance in population. Table14 show there was not significant difference between predictor variable anxiety and PAQ-M aggression\hostility subscale, Standardized beta coefficients ( $\beta$ ) (Beta = -.058, t (294) -.519, p >.597ns). Moreover, the analysis shows predictor variable (anxiety) **was significantly** predict of mother's *Neglect \indifferences* (Beta =.298, t (294) 2.993, p < .003). However, Table14show that anxiety was not significantly associated with PARQ-Mother's *Undifferentiated rejection at* (Beta =.099, t (294).917, p >.360ns).

This result indicates that adults' current feelings of anxiety was not associated with adults' perceived Mother' aggression\hostility, or Mother's Undifferentiated *rejection*. Though the results showed that adults' current feelings of anxiety were associated with adults' perceived mother' Neglect \indifferences as shown in Table 14.

**Table14. Regression Analysis of DASS-42: Anxiety Subscale on PARQ:Mother Three Sub Scales**

Predictor variables	Unstandardized coefficient		Standardized	t	P
B	SE		$\beta$		
Constant	.2631.617		-	.163	.871
PARQ: Mother					
Aggression\hostility	-.049	.093	-.058	-.529	.597ns
Neglect \indifferences	.307	.103	.298	2.993	.003
Undifferentiated rejection	.122	.133	.099	.917	.360ns

Note.R<sup>2</sup> (adjusted R<sup>2</sup> = .111, F (3,291)= 12.139, p < 0.01),ns =not significant

***Results for DASS-42 Stress Subscale and perceived mother aggression\hostility, and Neglect \indifferences, andUndifferentiated rejection***

Table 15 show the value of adjusted R<sup>2</sup> (adjusted R<sup>2</sup> = .036, F (3,291) = 3.589, p < 0.014) of Table 15. indicated that the model explained 3.6% of the variance in population. Table15. show there was not significant difference between predictor variable (stress and PAQ-M aggression\hostility subscale, Standardized beta coefficients ( $\beta$ ) (Beta =-.058, t (294).023, p >.841ns). moreover, the analysis shows predictor variable (stress) was significantly predict of adults' perceived mother's *Neglect \indifferences* (Beta =.126, t (294) .267, p < .011). However, Table15 show that stress was not significantly associated with PARQ-Mother's *Undifferentiated rejection at* (Beta =.164, t (294)-.146, p >.195 ns).

This result indicates that adults' current feelings of stress was not associated with adults' perceived Mother' *aggression\hostility*, or Mother's *Undifferentiated rejection*. Though the results showed that adults' current feelings of stress were associated with adults' perceived mother' neglect \indifferences as shown in Table 15

***Table 15. Regression Analysis of DASS-42: Stress Subscale on PARQ : Mother Three Sub scales***

Predictor variables	Unstandardized coefficient	Standardized	t	P
B	SE	$\beta$		
Constant	7.9161.986	-	3.986.001	
<b>PARQ: Mother</b>				
Aggression\hostility	.023 .114	-.058	.023.841ns	
Neglect \indifferences	.324 .103	.126.267.011		
Undifferentiated rejection	-.213 .133	.164-.146	.195ns	

Note.  $R^2$  (adjusted  $R^2 = .036$ ,  $F(3,291) = 3.589$ ,  $p < 0.014$ ), ns = not significant

***Results of Multiple Regression analysis of DASS-42 three subscales of PARQ: Father three subscales.***

To answer study question adults' current feelings of depression and anxiety and stress are affected by adults' perceived father aggression\hostility, and neglect \indifferences, and undifferentiated rejection?

**Results Depression subscale & PARQ-Father version**

Multiple Regression analysis of DASS-42 subscales on subscales of PARQ: father is shown in Table 16. The value of adjusted  $R^2$  (adjusted  $R^2 = .026$ ,  $F(3,291) = 3.645$ ,  $p < 0.13$ ) of Table 16. indicated that the model explained 3.6% of the variance in population. Table 16. show there was not significant difference between predictor variable (**Depression**) and PARQ-F *aggression\hostility* subscale, Standardized beta coefficients ( $\beta$ ) (Beta =  $-.075$ ,  $t(294) = .658$ ,  $p > .511$  ns).

Moreover, the analysis shows predictor variable (Depression) was significantly predict of father 's *Neglect \indifferences* (Beta =  $.181$ ,  $t(294) = 2.310$ ,  $p < .022$  ns). However, Table 16 show that Depression as predictor variable was not significantly associated with PARQ- father 's *Undifferentiated rejection at* (Beta =  $-.075$ ,  $t(294) = -.700$ ,  $p > .485$  ns).

This result indicates that adults' current feelings of Depression was only associated with adults' perceived Father' Neglect \indifferences scores as shown in Table 16. Though the results showed that adults'

current feelings of Depression were not associated with adults' perceived Father' aggression\hostility, or father undifferentiated rejection as shown in Table 16.

**Table 16 Regression Analysis of DASS-42: Depression Subscale on PARQ:father Three Sub scales**

Predictor variables	Unstandardized		Standardized	t	P
coefficient	coefficient				
B	SE	$\beta$			
Constant	4.9512.068		-	2.394	.017
PARQ: Father					
Aggression\hostility	.072	.110	.075	.658	.511ns
Neglect \indifferences	.216	.093	.181	2.310	.022
Undifferentiated rejection	-.107	.152	-.075	-.700	.485ns

Not.  $R^2$  (adjusted  $R^2 = .026$ ,  $F(3,291) = 3.645$ ,  $p < 0.13$ ), ns = not significant

***Results for PARQ-Father version subscales & Anxiety***

Multiple Regression analysis of DASS-42 three subscales of PARQ: father three subscales. Table 17. show the value of adjusted  $R^2$  (adjusted  $R^2 = .032$ ,  $F(3,291) = 4.265$ ,  $p < 0.06$ ) of Table 9. indicated that the model explained 4.2% of the variance in population. Table 17. show there was not significant difference between predictor variable (anxiety and PAQ-F aggression\hostility subscale, Standardized beta coefficients ( $\beta$ ) (Beta = .125,  $t(294) = 1.099$ ,  $p > .273$  ns). Moreover, the analysis shows predictor variable (anxiety) was significantly predict of father 's Neglect \indifferences (Beta = .140,  $t(294) = 1.791$ ,  $p < .074$  ns). However, Table 12. show that anxiety was not significantly associated with PARQ- father 's Undifferentiated *rejection at* (Beta = -.050,  $t(294) = -.472$ ,  $p > .638$  ns).

This result indicates that adults' current feelings anxiety was associated with adults' perceived father's Neglect \indifferences. however, adults' current feeling of anxiety was not associated with adults' perceived Father' aggression\hostility, or undifferentiated rejection as shown in Table 17

**Table 17. Regression Analysis of DASS-42: Anxiety Subscale on PARQ:Father Three Sub scales**

Predictor variables	Unstandardized		Standardized	t	P
coefficient	coefficient				
B	SE	$\beta$			
Constant	3.6171.838		-	1.967.050	
PARQ: Father					

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Aggression\hostility	.107.097	.1251.099.273ns
Neglect \indifferences	.149.083.1401.791.074	
Undifferentiated rejection	-.064.135-.050	-.472.638ns

Note.  $R^2$  (adjusted  $R^2 = .032$ ,  $F(3,291) = 4.265$ ,  $p < 0.06$ ), ns = not significant

**Results for DASS-42 stress Subscale and perceived father aggression\hostility, and Neglect \indifferences, and Undifferentiated rejection**

Table 18. show the value of adjusted  $R^2$  (adjusted  $R^2 = .020$ ,  $F(3,291) = 1.941$ ,  $p < 0.123$ ) that the model explained 1.7% of the variance in population. Table 18. show there was not significant difference between predictor variable (Stress and PAQ- father aggression\hostility subscale, Standardized beta coefficients ( $\beta$ ) (Beta = .029,  $t(294) = .254$ ,  $p > .800$  ns). moreover, the analysis shows predictor variable (Stress) was significantly predict of father 's Neglect \indifferences (Beta = .169,  $t(294) = 2.141$ ,  $p = .033$ ). However, Table 18. show that stress was not significantly associated with PARQ- father 's Undifferentiated rejection at (Beta = -.146,  $t(294) = -1.155$ ,  $p > .249$  ns).

This result indicates that adults' current feelings stress was associated with adults' perceived father's neglect \indifferences. However, adults' current feeling of stress was not associated with adults' perceived Father' aggression\hostility, or father undifferentiated rejection as shown in Table 18

**Table 18 Regression Analysis of DASS-42: Stress Subscale on PARQ Father Three Sub scales**

Predictor variables	Unstandardized coefficient	Standardized	t	P
B SE	$\beta$			
Constant	9.8302.193	-		4.483.001
<b>PARQ: Father</b>				
Aggression\hostility	.029 .116	.029		.254.800 ns
Neglect \indifferences	.212 .099	.169		2.141.033
Undifferentiated rejection	-.187 .161	-.125		-1.155 .249ns

Note.  $R^2$  (adjusted  $R^2 = .020$ ,  $F(3,291) = 1.941$ ,  $p < 0.123$ ), ns = not significant

In summary results from regression analyses indicated that for both versions of PARQ (father and mother) indicates that adults' current feelings of depression, anxiety and stress were not associated with adults' perceived father's or mother's aggression\hostility,

or undifferentiated rejection. However, the findings indicated association with adults' perceived father's and mother neglect \indifferences as shown in Tables (14,15,16,17,18).

Furthermore, A Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient was computed to assess the relationships between the perceived parental and maternal rejection as in (PARQ-Father \Mother) three subscales (aggression \ hostility, neglect \ indifferences, and undifferentiated rejection) to answer study question number five " Are there correlations between adults' perceived PARQ- mother' three subscales (aggression \ hostility, neglect \ indifferences, and undifferentiated rejection) and DASS-42 three subscales (Depression-Anxiety-Stress) in the state of Kuwait?

#### ***Intercorrelations Results between PARQ-Mother Subscales & DASS-42 Subscales***

As shown in Table 19. There was a correlation between PARQ-M aggression \ hostility subscale and DASS-42 Depression subscale [ $r=.237$ ,  $n=295$ ,  $p=.001$  significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)]. And there was a correlation between PARQ-M aggression \ hostility subscale and DASS-42 Anxiety subscale [ $r=.262$ ,  $n=295$ ,  $p=.001$  is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed)]. As well as, there was a low correlation between aggression \ hostility subscale and DASS-42 stress subscale [ $r=.115$ ,  $n=295$ ,  $p=.047$  significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)].

Overall, there was a low, positive correlations between PARQ-M aggression \ hostility subscale and DASS-42 three subscales. overall, adults' perceived Mother rejection were positively correlated with adults' current of feelings of mild degree of depression and anxiety and low positive degree of feelings stress.

Furthermore, there was a correlation between PARQ-M Neglect \ indifferences subscale and DASS-42 Depression subscale [ $r=.320$ ,  $n=295$ ,  $p=.001$  significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)]. And there was a correlation between PARQ-M Neglect \ indifferences subscale and DASS-42 Anxiety subscale [ $r=.330$ ,  $n=295$ ,  $p=.001$  is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed)]. As well as, there was a correlation between Neglect \ indifferences subscale and DASS-42 stress subscale [ $r=.170$ ,  $n=295$ ,  $p=.003$  significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)]. Overall, there was mild, positive correlations between PARQ-M Neglect \ indifferences subscale and DASS-42 three subscales. overall, adults' perceived Mother rejection were positively correlated with adults' current of feelings of modest degree of Depression and anxiety and stress as shown in Table 19

Moreover, Table 19 Show the following there was a correlation between PARQ-M undifferentiated rejection subscale and DASS-42

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Depression subscale [r=.2247, n =295, p = .001 significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)].

And there was a correlation between PARQ-M undifferentiated rejection subscale and DASS-42 Anxiety subscale [r=.286, n =295, p = .001 is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed)]. however, there was no correlation between undifferentiated rejection subscale and DASS-42 stress subscale [r=.085, n =295, p = .146 not significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)]. The results show a mild correlation between adults' perceived mother rejection as undifferentiated rejection and their current feelings of depression, as well as anxiety. However, the results show there no correlation on adults' current feeling of stress.

***Table 19. Person correlation intercorrelations between PARQ-Mother Subscales & DASS-42 Subscales***

DASS-Depression	DASS-Anxiety	DASS-Stress
<b>PARQ-MOTHER</b>		
1-Aggression\ hostility	.237.**	.262**
	.001	.115*
2-Neglect\indifferences	.320**	.330**
	.001	.047
3-Undifferentiated rejection	.224**	.286**
	.001	.085
		.146 ns

\* Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).\*\* Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).ns =not significant.

***Intercorrelations Results between PARQ-father Subscales & DASS-42 Subscales***

To answer study question Are there correlations between adults' perceived PARQ-Father' three subscales (aggression\ hostility, neglect\indifferences, and undifferentiated rejection) and DASS-42 three subscales (Depression-Anxiety- stress) in the state of Kuwait? A Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient was computed to assess the relationships between variables. Results as shown in Table 20. Were as follows:

As shown in Table 20 There was low correlation between PARQ-F aggression \hostility subscale and DASS-42 Depression subscale [r. 134, n =295, p = .021 significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed)]. And there was low correlation between PARQ-F aggression \hostility subscale and DASS-42 Anxiety subscale [r. .177, n =295, p = .001 is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed)]. There was no correlation between aggression



\hostility subscale and DASS-42 stress subscale [r.028, n =295, p = .513 not significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)].

Overall, there was a low, positive correlations between PARQ-F aggression \hostility subscale and Depression with anxiety subscales of DASS-42 not with stress subscale. overall, adults' perceived Father rejection were positively correlated with adults' current of feelings of low degree of depression and anxiety, however, there was no correlation between adults' perceived of father 'undifferentiated rejection and feelings stress.

Furthermore, there was a correlation between PARQ-F Neglect\indifferences subscale and DASS-42 Depression subscale [r. .186, n =295, p = .001 significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)]. And there was a correlation between PARQ-F Neglect\indifferences subscale and DASS-42 Anxiety subscale [r.193, n =295, p = .001 is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed)]. As well as, there was not significant between neglect\indifferences subscale and DASS-42 stress subscale [r.112, n =295, p = .003 significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)].

Overall, there was low, positive correlations between PARQ-F Neglect\indifferences subscale and DASS-42 two subscales. overall, adults' perceived father rejection was positively correlated with adults' current of feelings of Depression and anxiety, thus not for feeling of stress as shown in Table 20

Moreover, results shown in Table 20. there was no correlation between PARQ-F undifferentiated rejection subscale and DASS-42 Depression subscale [r.1.00, n =295, p = .087 not significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)]. And there was low correlation between PARQ-F undifferentiated rejection subscale and DASS-42 Anxiety subscale [r.141, n =295, p = .015 is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed)]. However, there no correlation between undifferentiated rejection subscale and DASS-42 stress subscale [r..004, n =295, p = .945 not significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)].

The results in Table 20. show low positive correlation between adults' perceived father rejection as undifferentiated rejection and their current feelings of anxiety. However, current adults' feeling of depression and stress and adults' remembering their father'undifferentiated rejection, the results show there were no correlations as shown in Table 20.

**Table 20. Person correlation intercorrelations between PARQ-Father Subscales AND dass-42 Subscales**

DASS-Depression	DASS-Anxiety	DASS-Stress
<b>PARQ-Father</b>		

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1-Aggression\ hostility	.134*	.177**	.028	
	.021	.002		.513 ns
2-Neglect\indifferences	.186**	.193**		.112
	.001	.001		.054ns
3-Undifferentiated rejection	.100	.141*		.004
	.087 ns	.015		.945ns
N		295		

Note .\* Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).\*\*. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).ns =not significant.

Furthermore, to answer study questions "Are there correlations between PARQ-Father\mothersubcales, DASS-42 subscales and demographic variables such as age, gender educational level, occupation, marital status, birth order?" Pearson product-moment was computed to assess the relationships between the following variables as shown in Table 21

**Results show for PARQ-Father Subscales**

There was low correlation between PARQ-F aggression \hostility subscale and age of the participants [r. 114, n =295, p = .049 significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed)]. And there was low and negative correlation between PARQ-F aggression \hostility subscale gender [r-.154, n =295, p = .008 is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).], as well as a low correlation between aggression \hostility subscale and participants' occupation [r.128, n =295, p = .028 significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)]. However, there were no correlations between PARQ-Father aggression \hostility subscale and other mentioned demographic variables. Furthermore, there were no correlations between PARQ-F neglect\indifferences subscale study variable as shown in Table 16. Moreover, there was a low and negative correlation between undifferentiatedrejection subscale and gender [r. -.128, n =295, p = .028 significant at the 0.05level (2-tailed)].However, there were no correlation between this subscale and study demographic variables as shown in Table21.

Over all the results show that in the PARQ-father subscales that some adults who recalled their fathers' more aggressive and hostile is correlated with their age and with their kind of work as in governments or private sectors. Also, these results show that some participants mostly males as shown from gender difference results mentioned above were recalling their father' undifferentiated rejection.

Moreover, there were no correlations between PARQ-Mother Subscales and study demographic variables as shown in Table 21

Pearson Correlation was conducted to discover correlations between DASS-42 subscales and study demographic variables, the only

low and negative correlation found between anxiety subscale and precipitants birth order in their family [ $r = -.117$ ;  $n = 295$ ,  $p = .046$  significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed)]. There were no correlations between depression and stress subscales and demographic variables as shown in Table 21.

**Table 21** *Person correlation intercorrelations between PARO-Father/Mother Subscales & DASS-42 Subscales & Demographic Variables*

	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>PARO-Father Subscales</b>						
Hostility \ Aggression		.114*	-.154**	-.027	.128*	.100
		.049 Sig	.008 sig	.643 ns	.028 sig	.087ns
Indifference/Neglect		.031	-.049	-.035	.092	.072
		.596ns	.402ns	.548ns	.116ns	.217ns
Undifferentiated Rejection		.100	-.128*	-.013	.100	.095
		.086ns	.028	.829ns	.087ns	.103 ns
				.102 ns		
<b>PARO-Mother Subscales</b>						
Hostility \ Aggression		.150**	-.028		.040	.129*
		-.023				
		.010	.631ns	.493 ns	.027	.012
Indifference/Neglect		.028	.094	-.002	.006	.089
		.107 ns	.975 ns	.915 ns	.127 n s	.067
Undifferentiated Rejection		.040	.107	-.025	.027	.105
		.038 ns	.665 ns	.648 ns	.070 ns	.050 ns
				.495 ns		
<b>DASS-42 Subscales</b>						
Depression		-.023	.073		.064	-.094
		-.044				.068
			.691ns	.208ns	.274ns	.106ns
		.455ns				.245ns
Anxiety		.001	.081	.002	-.079	.092
		.990ns	.166ns	.970 ns	.174ns	.113ns
						.046
Stress		-.042	.089	.074	-.104	.089
		.444ns	.473 ns	.127ns	.207 ns	.076 ns
						.128.ns
N	295					

Note . Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).\*\*. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed). Age=1, Gender=2, Educational level=3, occupation=4, marital status=5, birth order = 6, ns= (not significant).

### Discussion

Parental and maternal rejection plays an important role in individuals' psychological development at different stages of their life.

The purpose of the present study was to investigate the correlations and the associations between adults' perceived parental and maternal rejection in childhood in relations to their current psychological maladjustment such as feelings of depression, anxiety, and stress in the state of Kuwait.

The researcher hypothesized that there will be gender differences in perceived paternal rejection as remembered by males' adults in the state of Kuwait than maternal rejection. The findings of this study showed that when the males' adults perceived rejection from the father was examined in all sub-scales (hostility/aggression, indifference/neglect and undifferentiated rejection) and in total scores adults' males perceive their fathers to be more rejective than their females' counterparts. Specifically, males' in this sample recalled their fathers' to be aggressive, hostile, and believed that their fathers' do not really care about them, want them, or love them, but there were clear behavioral indicators to them may be that their fathers' neglectful, unaffectionate, or aggressive toward them it consistent with (Ronher, 2016).

It could be that parents and their adult children often experienced some problems in their relationships as roles and responsibilities. For the parents, the change of role from being the primary influence to something less in their adults' children lives, and for the adult child, the roles of his/her parents become blurred as growing up as there will be differences in communication, and interaction (Treas, Scott, & Richards, 2015), lifestyle choices of the adult child, the way grandchildren are being raised, the employment status of the adult child (Birditt, Miller, Fingerman, & Lefkowitz, 2009; Clarke, Preston, Raskin, & Bengtson, 1999).

In addition, it could be that fathers specially are expected to be strong physically, mentally and, emotionally by the society, in other words, fathers are expected not to express their feelings as they are. The broadly accepted fathers are the one who, unlike mothers, does not express his feelings through hugging, or speaking lovingly to their children. In addition, fathers are less engaged with their children than mothers.

As a result of this study, it showed that males remembered their father's hostility and aggression more than females, it consistent with these studies, Fershani study (1998) which indicated that Palestinian boys perceived both their parents treating them more negatively than the girls did; they perceived their parents as being more rejecting, and hostile than did the girls. As Hussain and Munaf (2012) found that adult male perceived their fathers, to be more aggressive, more neglecting, more rejecting as compared to females. Also, Hussain, Alvi, Zeeshan, and Nadeem, (2013); and in Najam and Kausar (2012) reported that males

in their sample perceived to be more rejected by their father during their childhood than female participants.

Furthermore, results of the study showed that there were associations between current feelings of depression, anxiety, and stress with adults' perceived mother' and father' are being aggressive or hostile, as well as neglect, indifference toward them during childhood.

Adults' recalling memories of perceived parental and maternal rejection may both directly be linked to the development of depressive symptoms right through to adulthood. It maybe that when individuals perceive that they forced to go through life without the love, support and nurturing of a parent (father), they will be crashing into walls and at times falling, unable to stand up again. Given this notion, that there could be nothing more harmful to a sons' and daughters ' self-belief than perceived rejection from their parents.

Results reported here are consistent with the literature on the negative effects of perceived parental rejection, researchers have documented the long -term negative effects of perceived parental rejection on individuals' psychological development such as, Rohner and Khaleque (2005) argued that parental and maternal rejection accounts for a significant portion of all adults' mental health, and maladjustment problems.

The results of this study were consistent with Downey, Khouri, and Feldman (1997) study findings of higher levels of parental neglect during childhood were associated with more rejection in adulthood. Moreover, the study results consistent with these studies (Campos, et al.,2013; Dwairy ,2010; Faied, 2000; Giaouzi & Giovazolias, 2015; Munaf & Sardar ,2010; Rohner,2016).

Furthermore, it was found that male adults' participants who remembered parental and maternal rejection have positive correlations with their current maladjustment such anxiety and stress is now well known that early experiences with a parent or both parents can influence psychological development in later life.

it also consistent with studies such as (Moberg, Nordstrom, Forslund, Kristiansson, Asberg, & Jokinen ,2011; Ronher, & Britner,2002).

Moreover, results for adults' females in this study showed that remembrances of paternal and maternal rejection in childhood have no significant impact on their current psychological maladjustment than do males remembrances of parental rejection in childhood. It may be that females perceive their parents to be more accepting than do males, it consistent with Chung, Zappulla, and Kaspar, (2008). It may be that mothers spent more time on parenting activities than do father.mothers

are also more likely to use reasoning and nurturing behavior to achieve their parenting goals, while fathers use more forceful techniques based on parental authority and power as in (Bentley & Fox, 1991 as cited in Moller, Majdandzic, De Vente, & Bogels, 2013).

***Limitations and Implications.***

From the study findings, it can be concluded that there were correlations between adults' who perceived parental and maternal rejection and its effects on their current psychological maladjustment of feelings of depression, anxiety, and stress in adulthood. Most research link parenting styles to developmental outcomes in children and adolescents, though there are few studies about parenting styles linked to adults' current psychological development.

It is assumed that adults whom perceived parental and maternal rejection not only related to their current psychological maladjustment of feelings of depression, anxiety, and stress, but also may produce other psychological and social problems. Therefore, longitudinal data is needed to be used in future studies to examine the relationships between parental and maternal rejection and adults' children current psychological maladjustments. More research is needed to better understand the different implications that maternal and paternal rejection and other forms of parenting styles on adults' current psychological outcomes.

As far for the researcher knowledge this study is the first to explore the correlations between adults' perceived parental and maternal rejection and its relations to their current psychological maladjustment in Kuwaiti context.

However, the present study has several limitations. The sample did not represent the population of the whole country. Sample size was small to get the exact picture of adults' psychological and social maladjustments. Further, another limitation of this study is the retrospective accounts of parental and maternal behaviors in childhood. The validity of childhood memories is often called into question because respondents' present status such as psychological well-being may shape childhood memories.

In order to overcome the limitations, further research need to be done including a greater number of representative samples. This would enable us to understand about the effects of parental and maternal

rejection in childhood as remembered by adults' in relations to their current psychological effects of feelings of depression, anxiety and stress.

Moreover, despite small effect sizes, the study results provide some support that remembered parental and maternal rejection are related to adults psychological functioning, which supports findings in the child development literature and adult literature based on clinical samples and single outcomes. More research is clearly warranted in this area to gain a better understanding of factors both current and retrospective that enhance positive adults' psychological development.

Therefore, it is recommended for parents especially fathers to pay more attention to their parenting skills during their children childhood by minimizing their rejection and maximizing acceptance in order to foster psychologically healthy offspring.

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