mutual commitment, so this study had purpose to examine those potential differences. To examine differences in the perception of relationship quality among married couples and cohabitating couples a total of 490 couples of diverse socioeconomic status, aged between 20 and 79 were examined (M = 40,7; SD = 11,38). For measuring relationship quality the Dyadic Adjustment Scale (DAS: Spanier, 1976, 1989) with four factors of relationship quality: dyadic consensus, dyadic satisfaction, affectional expression, and dyadic cohesion was administered. To assess the differences between married couples and cohabitating couples across the four factors of relationship quality, controlling for relationship duration, one-way MANCOVA was performed. Results indicate the absence of significant differences across all assessed factors of relationship quality, except in the estimated satisfaction with relationship – cohabitating couples reported greater relationship satisfaction compared to married couples. The obtained results are in contrast with previous research in which greater relationship quality was found in married couples, so it is assumed that there are other factors that mediate the relationship between the relationship quality and marital status, for example, cohabitors plans for marriage. This results have practical implications which are primarily related to the incorporation of new knowledge about the absence of negative effects of cohabitation in the work with young couples and encouraging consideration of commitment to the relationship, as well as open discussion between partners about the meaning and expectations each partner assigns to cohabitation.

*Keywords:* relationship quality, married couples, cohabitating couples

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**Validacija MOPS inventara disfunkcionalnih roditeljskih stilova na srednjoškolskom uzorku**

Postoji veliki broj nalaza o vezama između disfunkcionalnih ili neadekvatnih roditeljskih stilova i kasnijih eksternalizujućih i internalizujućih problema kod djece, uključujući i veći rizik za javljanje depresije. Jedan od poznatijih modela disfunkcionalnih roditeljskih stilova operacionalizovan je preko MOPS inventara, koji obuhvata supskale Indiferentnih (6 ajtema), Zlostavljajućih (5 ajtema) i Pretjerano kontrolišućih (4 ajtema) roditeljskih ponašanja (odnosno "stilova") tokom prvih 16 godina djetetovog života. Ove dimenzije su mjerene putem 4-stepenih Likertovih tvrdnji, na osnovu

retrospektivne samoprocjene (bivše) djece. Cilj istraživanja je predstavljao inicijalnu psihometrijsku validaciju MOPS inventara, uključujući provjeru internih konzistencija njegovih supskala i provjere faktorske i kriterijumske validnosti (predikcija depresivnosti). Istraživanje je sprovedeno na uzorku srednjoškolskih učenika iz Republike Srpske (N = 1399 učenika, po 50% djevojaka i mladića; prosječan uzrast: M = 16.85, SD = 0.99 godina). Svi učenici su ispunjavali MOPS inventar posebno za majku i oca. Podaci o nivou depresivnosti tokom prethodne dvije sedmice su prikupljeni uz pomoć PHQ-9 upitnika. Konfirmativna faktorska analiza (CFA) ukazala je na dobru saglasnost pretpostavljenog trofaktorskog MOPS modela sa empirijskim podacima i za majke ($\chi$2(87) = 354.73, p < .001; CFI = .986, TLI = .983, RMSEA = .047, 90% CI [.042, .052]) i za očeve ($\chi$2(87) = 559.75, p < .001; CFI = .981, TLI = .978, RMSEA = .062, 90% CI [.057, .067]). Faktori su bili visoko interkorelirani, uz visoke interne konzistencije, osim za supskalu Pretjerano kontrolišućeg stila (majka: $\alpha$ = .75, $\omega$ = .53; otac: $\alpha$ = .74, $\omega$ = .53). Učenici su konzistentno postizali više skorove od učenica na svim supskalama, iako su razlike bile u rasponu trivijalnih do niskih intenziteta efekata (naviša razlika bila je na supskali Zlostavljajućeg roditeljskog stila oca: d = 0.21, p < .001). Sve procjene po korespodentnim supskalama za majke i očeve bile su visoko korelirane, iako su očevima pripisivani neznatno viši prosječni skorovi Indiferentnog stila (d = 0.10, p < .001), a majkama nešto viši prosječni skorovi Pretjerano kontrolišućeg stila (d = 0.26, p < .001). Na bivarijacionom planu, sve MOPS supskale su korelirale sa skorom depresivnosti, iako su povezanosti bile niskog intenziteta (najniža korelacija bila je s Pretjerano kontrolišućim stilom oca: r = .12, p < .001; najviša korelacija bila je sa Zlostavljajućim stilom majke: r = .22, p < .001). U cjelini, MOPS supskale su objašnjavale 7.2% varijanse depresivnosti, a značajni parcijalni prediktori bili su: Pretjerano kontrolišući stil majke ($\beta$ = .14, p < .001), Indiferenti stil oca ($\beta$ = .13, p = .002) i Zlostavljajući roditeljski stil majke ($\beta$ = .12, p = .017). Moguće je zaključiti da MOPS inventar posjeduje dobro fitujuću faktorsku strukturu i uglavnom visoke interne konzistencije supskala, iako su korelacije sa depresivnošću nešto niže u odnosu na vrijednosti iz referentnih inostranih istraživanja.

*Ključne reči:* MOPS inventar, disfunkcionalni roditeljski stilovi, depresivnost, srednjoškolski učenici, konfirmativna faktorska analiza (CFA)

## Validation of the MOPS inventory of dysfunctional parenting styles on a sample of high school students

There are a number of findings linking dysfunctional or inadequate parenting styles with externalizing and internalizing problems in children later on, including a higher risk of depression. One of the most known models of dysfunctional parenting styles is measured by the MOPS inventory, which includes subscales of Indifference (6 items), Abuse (5 items) and Overcontrol (4 items), which refer to parental behavior (or "styles") during the first 16 years of a child's life. These dimensions are measured as a (former) child's retrospective self-assessments, through 4-point Likert-type items. The aim of this study was to conduct an initial psychometric validation of the MOPS inventory, which included an examination of the internal consistencies of its subscales and

both factor and criterion validity (i.e., a prediction of depressiveness). The research was conducted on a sample of high school students from the Republic of Srpska (N = 1399 students; 50% girls and boys each; average age: M = 16.85, SD = 0.99 years). All respondents completed the MOPS inventory separately for mother and father. Data regarding depressiveness levels in the past two weeks were collected with the PHQ-9 questionnaire. Confirmatory factor analysis (CFA) revealed that a proposed 3-factor MOPS model had a good fit with the empirical data for both mothers ($\chi2(87)$ = 354.73, p < .001; CFI = .986, TLI = .983, RMSEA = .047, 90% CI [.042, .052]) and fathers ($\chi2(87)$ = 559.75, p < .001; CFI = .981, TLI = .978, RMSEA = .062, 90% CI [.057, .067]). Factors were highly intercorrelated, with high internal consistencies, except for the Overcontrol subscale (mother: $\alpha$ = .75, $\omega$ = .53; father: $\alpha$ = .74, $\omega$ = .53). Male students had higher scores than females on all subscales, although the differences were in a trivial to low effect size interval (the highest difference was on the Abuse subscale for a father: d = 0.21, p < .001). All the scores for corresponding mothers' and fathers' subscales were highly correlated, although fathers were attributed trivially higher mean Indifference scores, and mothers were attributed slightly elevated mean Overcontrol scores (d = 0.26, p < .001). On a bivariate level, all MOPS subscales correlated with a depressiveness score, although the effect sizes were of a small intensity (the lowest correlation was with a father's Overcontrolling style: r = .12, p < .001; the highest correlation was with a mother's Abusive style: r = .22, p < .001). In general, MOPS subscales explained 7.2% of the depressiveness' variance, with significant partial predictors being: mother's Overcontrol ($\beta$ = .14, p < .001), father's Indifference ($\beta$ = .13, p = .002) and mother's Abuse ($\beta$ = .12, p = .017). It can be concluded that MOPS inventory has well fitting factor structure and mostly high internal consistencies, although correlations with depressiveness are somewhat lower in comparison to the values from referent foreign studies.

*Keywords:* MOPS inventory, dysfunctional parenting styles, depressiveness, high school students, confirmatory factor analysis (CFA)

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