



Oct 03, 2019

Protocol- Romantic relationships and family in Spaniards emerging adults

[Marta Díez](#)¹¹Inmaculada Sánchez-Queija, Águeda Parra (Universidad de Sevilla)

In Development

[dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.67dhh16](https://doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.67dhh16)

Marta Díez

ABSTRACT

The exploration of and search for romantic relationships is one of the developmental tasks that characterize emerging adulthood, a new developmental phase half way between adolescence and full adulthood. The present study aims to explore the relationships which exist between the subjective perception of some parental behaviour and the anxiety and avoidance dimensions of attachment during emerging adulthood. The results revealed that perceived family support and perceived parental warmth were negatively associated with the avoidance and anxiety dimensions. In contrast, perceived parental control (both behavioral and psychological) was found to be positively associated with both attachment dimensions. Perceived behavioral control was also found to play a moderator role between perceived parental warmth and romantic attachment anxiety. This research therefore adds to our knowledge of how to help young people establish healthy romantic relationships, one of the principal developmental tasks of emerging adulthood, and does so by analyzing the role played by the family in this undertaking. Indeed, the family continues to be a key development context for young people and influence them on the romantic partner choice. Young people who, in both Spain and many other Western countries, continue to live in the family home until well into their third decade of life. This is a new phenomenon which previous generations did not experience, and further study is required to enable a more thorough understanding of this period.

GUIDELINES

During the initial phase, faculty from different knowledge areas at the Universities of Sevilla and the blinded were contacted in order to request their consent and to arrange to gather the data during class time.

MATERIALS TEXT

Demographic variables. All participants indicated their age, sex and whether or not they had a partner currently or had had one in the past.

Experience of close relationships. The Spanish version (Arbiol, Balluerka & Shaver, 2007) of the questionnaire designed by Brennan, Clark and Shaver (1998) was used for the data collection process.

Social support was evaluated using the Multidimensional Scale of Perceived Social Support (Zimet, Dahlem, Zimet, & Farley, 1988). T

Parental warmth. The Parent Warmth Subscale (e.g. My parent accepts me and likes me as I am) of the Perception of Parents Scale (POPS), College Student Version (Grolnick, Ryan, & Deci, 1991; Robbins, 1994) was used to measure parental warmth. T

Psychological control was measured using the corresponding subscale of the Parental Styles Scale (Oliva, Parra, Sánchez-Queija, & López, 2007).

Behavioral control was measured using items adapted for Emerging Adults from Kerr and Stattin's Control Subscale (Kerr & Stattin, 2000).

BEFORE STARTING

Specially trained members of the research team collected the data from participating students during one hour of class time. All participants were informed by write of the aim of the study and assurances were given that the survey was both anonymous and confidential. The inclusion criteria was to be in the classroom at the time of data collection and be between 18 and 29 years old. All students participated voluntarily. The study was approved by the andalusia Biomedical Research Ethics Committee.

1



This is an open access protocol distributed under the terms of the [Creative Commons Attribution License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited