

# **The mediating role of self- esteem in the relation of attachment styles and attitude toward infidelity among married students**

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The aim of current research is to investigate the mediating role of self-esteem in the relationship between attachment styles and attitude toward infidelity. The research method is descriptive-correlation. The sample consisted of 200 married male of Islamic Azad university of Rasht branch in the first academic year of 2016-17 that were ed by available sampling method ad responded to Whatley attitude toward infidelity questionnaire, Collins & Read attachment styles questionnaire and Rosenberg self-esteem scale. The gathered data were analyzed by spss- 18 using Pearson correlation coefficient, stepwise regression analysis According to Baron and Kenny (1986) steps. Results of research showed that there exist negative and significant relation between secure attachment style and attitude toward infidelity and positive and significant relation between insecure attachment styles and attitude toward infidelity ( $P>0.01$ ). There exist positive and significant relation between secure attachment style and self-esteem and negative and significant relation between insecure attachment styles and self-esteem ( $P>0.01$ ). The relation between self-esteem and attitude toward infidelity was negative and significant ( $P>0.01$ ). Also insecure attachment style could indirectly predict attitude toward infidelity with the mediating role of self-esteem of married students ( $P>0.01$ ). The findings of this study highlight the importance of attachment style in explaining self-esteem and quality of marriage among couples.

**Keywords :** Attitude toward Infidelity, Attachment Styles, Self-Esteem

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