

http://periodicos.uem.br/ojs/acta ISSN on-line: 1807-8648 Doi: 10.4025/actascihealthsci.v46i1.66400

# Analysis of the mother-father relations of adolescents who stayed at home during the pandemia process

Melike Yavaş Çelik<sup>1</sup> and Duygu Ayar<sup>2\*</sup>

Department of Midwifery, Faculty of Health Sciences, Gaziantep University, Şehitkamil, Gaziantep, Turkey. Department of Nursing, Faculty of Health Sciences, Gaziantep Islam Bilim ve Technology University, Küçükkızılhisar, 104001, Cd., 27260 Gaziantep, Turkey. \*Author for correspondence. Email:duyguayar@gmail.com

ABSTRACT. This research has been planned in a descriptive way to examine the mother-father relationships of adolescents during the pandemic process. The data were collected with Personal Information Form and Adolescent-Mother, Father Relationship Inventory. T test, (ANOVA), Kruskal Wallis and Mann Whitney U test were used for analysis. The score average of the Mother, Father Relations Inventory filled out by adolescents for their mothers was 120.89 ± 21.68, and the average score of the Mother, Father Relations Inventory filled out by adolescents for their fathers was 136.65 ± 36.74. It was determined that the Adolescent-Mother, Father Relations Inventory scores for the mothers and fathers were statistically significant in terms of variables such as the mother-father relationship status before the pandemic, the effect of the pandemic on the mother-father relations, and family attitudes (p < 0.05). During the pandemic process, adolescents' mother-father relationships are interrupted and there are problems in their mother-father relationships.

Keywords: adolescents; pandemic; mother-father relationship.

Received on December 22, 2022. Accepted on May25, 2023.

#### Introduction

The World Health Organization declared the Covid-19 outbreak as a pandemic, and in this direction, many countries started quarantine practices to prevent the spread of the virus On March 11, 2020 (Brooks et al., 2020; Holmes et al., 2020). The pandemic has created an extraordinary situation for individuals and families, and the quarantine policies, closed schools and workplaces have brought about a compulsory stay together for an indefinite period (Perelli-Harris &Walzenbach, 2020). While this compulsory partnership in the family can sometimes strengthen intra-family relations, it can also negatively affect the adolescent-mother-father relations due to limitations in social relationships outside the family and the other stress factors associated with the pandemic (Donker, Mastrotheodoros, & Branje, 2020; Masten & Motti-Stefanidi, 2020; Walsh, 2020).

Adolescence is a period of rapid biological and psychosocial changes that have a significant impact on the father-mother-child relations (Branje, 2018). In this period, the adolescent needs help in acquiring the values that will guide her/his behaviors, and learning her/his social responsibilities. The responsibility for meeting this requirement belongs to the parents, who are the first effective persons in the life of the adolescents (Ustuner Top, 2015). However, during the pandemic process, mothers and fathers are trying to cope with multiple parenting tasks, such as managing their work from home, as well as providing all-day care for their children, dealing with online education demands, and balancing the needs of different family members who are starting to spend all their time together at home (Prime, Wade, & Browne, 2020). In addition, children's experiencing higher levels of emotional and behavioral problems compared to the times before the pandemic is an important source of parents' tension (Orgilés, Morales, Delvecchio, Mazzeschi, & Espada, 2020; Giorgio, Riso, Mioni, Cellini, 2021). Thus, the stress levels perceived by the parents increase, and the dysfunctional parental attitudes that accompany the adolescents' mental problems begin to escalate (Ezpeleta, Navarro, Osa, Trepat, & Penelo, 2020). It is predicted that the psychological changes of the parents and the emotional reflections of this situation, and their negative behaviors may cause disruptions in the communication of both spouses with each other and with the adolescent.

It is known that there are many areas that adolescents as well as parents are adversely affected in the pandemic process. In this process, it was observed that the levels of depression, fear, obsession, loneliness Page 2 of 10 Çelik and Ayar

and the stress of adolescents increased; nonetheless, it is stated that effective time spent with the family reduces these negativities (Chen, Sun, & Feng, 2020; Ellis, Dumas, & Forbes, 2020). However, as schools were closed due to the pandemic, and adolescents had to stay at home, their communication and socialization with their peers was interrupted, and their mental health was negatively affected (Horton, 2020; Zhou et al., 2020). Adolescents' having to communicate more often and compulsively with their families sometimes leads to conflicts with their parents (Su et al., 2018). Parents' self-efficacy and social support have been identified as the best predictors of positive experiences in mother-father-adolescent relations during the quarantine process (Woźniak-Prus et al., 2023). Having healthy relationships between adolescents and parents during the attempts of controlling the pandemic is at a key point in determining the physical and psychological problems adolescents may experience in the early period, and ensuring the comfort of the adolescent (NHCPRC, 2020). In this context, this research was planned in a descriptive and relation-seeking nature in order to examine the mother-father relations of adolescents during the pandemic process.

# **Research questions**

What is the change in parental relationships in adolescents' COVID-19 pandemic?

#### Material and methods

#### Research design

Students of a health vocational high school (n = 300) constituted the population of the descriptive research. The sample of the study consisted of high school students aged between 13 and 18, who are volunteer to participate in the study, who can be reached via social media, and who use social media. The sample size was determined as 244 with 99% confidence interval and 5% margin of error, and the research was completed with 85.7% (n = 257) of high school students. A digital questionnaire was created by the researchers to minimize face-to-face interaction due to the pandemic. The digital questionnaire created was shared with adolescents on social media platforms (such as Whatsapp, Instagram, Twitter) and respondents were asked to share it with other people. At the beginning of the questionnaire sent to the participants, there is information about the purpose and content of the study and that participation in the study is voluntary. The identity information of the adolescents was not recorded in the questionnaire. In addition, consent was obtained from parents of adolescents under 18 for the adolescent's participation in the study.

#### Sampling criteria:

- -Being volunteering to participate in research,
- -Being in the age range of 12-19
- Use of social media

#### Non-sampling criteria:

- -Having a psychological illness
- -be addicted to substance
- -Getting psychiatric counseling and participating in counseling groups

# **Data collection tools**

The study was conducted between 07.01.2021-04.02.2021 with a total of 257 students. The data were collected using Personal Information Form and Adolescent- Mother, Father Relationship Inventory, Adolescent Form.

Personal Information Form:Personal Information Form has been developed by researchers; It consists of 20 questions that evaluate the socio-demographic characteristics of adolescents, parental relations and their thoughts about Covid-19. (Kaner, 2000; Donker et al., 2020; Masten & Motti-Stefanidi, 2020; Walsh, 2020).

Adolescent- Mother, Father Relationship Inventory, Adolescent Form: The scale, developed by Kaner (2000), measures the control of parents and their relationship with their parents, based on their own reports. The first sub-dimension of the scale, Mother Relationships, consists of seven subscales (close communication, cooperative activity, sensitivity, love and trust, monitoring, regulation of norms and meeting expectations) and 30 items, while the second sub-dimension, Father Relationships, consists of eight subscales (in the

Mother Relationship Scale all sub-dimensions and house rules) and 37 items. In answering the scale, a likert-type 5-scores rating (Always 5, Never 1) is used. Higher scores from the scale indicate that parents' control over the adolescent and their relationship with the adolescent are high. The low score obtained reflects the weakness of the parent's control over and the relationship with their child. The reliability study of the Adolescent- Mother, Father Relationship Inventory was conducted by Kaner (2000) using the Cronbach Alpha Internal Consistency and Test Half Method. The Cronbach Alpha coefficient of the Mother Relationship Inventory was reported as 0.92, and the Cronbach Alpha coefficient of the Father Relationship Inventory was reported as .93 (Kaner, 2000). For this study, the Cronbach Alpha coefficient of the Mother Relationship Inventory was 0.94 and the Cronbach Alpha coefficient of the Father Relations Inventory was 0.97.

#### Data analysis

SPSS 24.0 (Statistical Package of Social Sciences for Windows) statistical package program was used to analyze the data obtained in the research. Categorical variables used in the analysis are given as number (percentage), while continuous variables are given as mean  $\pm$  standard deviation. Whether the distribution of continuous variables conforms to normal distribution was checked using Kolmogorov-Smirnov and Shapiro-Wilk tests. T test and ANOVA one-way analysis of variance tests were used in independent groups for normally distributed data. Kruskal Wallis and Mann Whitney U tests were used for data that did not show normal distribution. Cronbach-Alpha was calculated for internal consistency. Statistical significance level was taken as p < 0.05.

#### Ethical aspect of the research

Kilis 7 Aralık University Ethics Committee permission was obtained to conduct the study (Ethics committee number: 2020/01). The purpose of the research was written in the web-based form and the voluntary basis was taken. Results Participants' online consent was obtained. This study was conducted in accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki Principles.

#### Results

The average age of adolescents is  $16.07 \pm 1.40$ . Most of the adolescents are between the ages of 17 and 18 (48.6%), female (80.2%), third grade high school students (29.2%), and live in a nuclear family (77.4%). Most of the mothers of the adolescents have primary education and below education (59.1%), do not work (84.4%), most of their fathers have high school or higher education (57.6%) and work in a job (79.0%). While most of the adolescents have 3 or more siblings (73.5%), most of their income levels are equal to income and expenses (73.9%). While most of the adolescents interpret the mother-father relationship positively (91.4%) before the pandemic, they state that the mother-father relations are negatively affected (55.3%) in the pandemic. In addition, most of the adolescents stated that staying home affects them negatively (74.3%) during the pandemic. However, most of the adolescents stated that their parents (42.4%) were democratic. It was determined that most of the adolescents did not have Covid-19 positivity (89.1%), and one of the adolescents had covid-19 positivity (65.4%) in the majority (Table 1).

It was determined to be significant that The Adolescent-Mother, Father Relationship Inventory, which was filled in by adolescents for their mothers, was statistically analyzed in terms of age, class, Mother, Father relationship status before the pandemic, the effect of the pandemic on parent relations, the effect of staying home in the pandemic, family attitudes, Covid-19 positivity (p < 0.05) (Table 2). In addition, it was determined that adolescents with mothers with irrelevant mother attitudes had lower Adolescent-Mother, Father Relationship Inventoryscores compared to adolescents with mothers with other attitudes (p < 0.05) (Table 2). It was determined that the mean scores of the The Adolescent-Mother, Father Relationship Inventory, filled in by the participants for their fathers showed statistically significant differences in terms of variables such as age, class, family type, parental relationship status before the pandemic, the effect of the pandemic on parent relations, family attitudes (p < 0.05) (Table 2). Adolescents aged 17-18, in the 4th grade, with a fragmented family, with poor parental relationships before the pandemic, and who stated that their mother-father relationships were negatively affected in the pandemic, had low Parental-Adolescent Relations Inventory scores (Table 2). In addition, it was determined that adolescents with inconsistent father attitude have lower The Adolescent-Mother, Father Relationship Inventory, scores and statistically significant (p < 0.05) (Table 2).

Page 4 of 10 Çelik and Ayar

**Table 1.** Distribution of demographic data and questions regarding Covid-19.

		N = 257	% = 100
	13-14 age	55	21.4
Age	15-16 age	77	30.0
	17-18 age	125	48.6
Sex	Famale	206	80.2
	Male	51	19.8
	1.class	74	28.8
CI	2.class	37	14.4
Class	3.class	75	29.2
	4.class	71	27.6
	Nuclear family	199	77.4
Family Type	Extended family	46	17.9
	Broken family	12	4.7
Education status of the mother		152	59.1
	Figh school graduate	105	40.9
B1		109	42.4
Education status of the father	➤ High school graduate	148	57.6
	Yes	217	84.4
Mother working status	No	40	15.6
	Yes	203	79.0
Father working status	No	54	21.0
	1-2 siblings	68	26.5
Number of siblings	≥ 3 siblings	189	73.5
	Income below expenses	32	12.5
Family income	Income equal expenses	190	73.9
runniy meome	Income above expenses	35	13.6
Relationship status with parents before the	Good	235	91.4
pandemic	Bad	22	8.6
The effect of the pandemic on your parent	Positive	115	44.7
relationships	Negative	142	55.3
<u> </u>	Positive	66	25.7
The effect of staying home in the pandemic itself	Negative	191	74.3
	Authoritarian	46	17.9
	Democratic	109	42.4
	Overly tolerant	21	8.2
Family attitude	Over protective	36	14.0
i anni, accitate	Inconsistent	26	10.1
	Perfectionist	6	2.3
	Irrelevant	13	5.1
	Yes	28	10.9
Covid-19 positivity status	No	229	89.1
	Yes	168	65.4
Having a relative with Covid-19 positivity	No	89	34.6
Total	110	257	100.0

While the average score of The Adolescent-Mother, Father Relationship Inventory filled by the adolescents for their mothers was  $120.89 \pm 21.68$ , the average score of The Adolescent-Mother, Father Relationship Inventory filled for their fathers was  $136.65 \pm 36.74$  (Table 2).

Table 2. Comparison of the Adolescent -Mother, Father Relationship Inventory scores of some demographic and Covid-19 data.

		Mother, Father Relationship Inventory (Anne) $\overline{\mathbf{X}} \pm SS$	Mother, Father Relationship Inventory (Baba) $\overline{\mathbf{X}} \pm \mathrm{SS}$
	13-14 age	127.01±20.54	147.14±39.02
	15-16 age	123.20±20.62	139.32±35.52
Age	17-18 age	116.69±22.12	130.65±36.74
		$X^2=13.88$	$X^2=10.86$
		p=0.001***	p=0.004***
	1.class	126.13 ± 20.94	144.91 ± 37.85
Class	2.class	$121.48 \pm 23.81$	139.91 ± 32.97
	3.class	118.21 ± 19.90	$132.69 \pm 32.97$

	4.class	117.85 ± 22.48	130.52 ± 39.11
		$X^2 = 9.08$	$X^2 = 10.53$
		p = 0.03***	p = 0.02***
	Nuclear family	120.84±21.56	139.67±33.54
	Extended family	120.39±21.47	135.89±36.63
Family Type	Broken family	123.58±26.05	89.50±55.47
		$X^2=0.69$	$X^2=9.41$
	p=0.7	0 =1/* =1/* =1/*	p=0.009 ***
	Good	122.66±20.48	140.09±34.77
Relationship status with parents before the	Bad	102.09±25.45	99.90±37.87
pandemic		U=1347.00	U=108.50
		p=0.0001****	p=0.0001****
	Positive	129.22±16.09	148.84±30.58
The effect of the pandemic on your parent	Negative	110.73±23.30	121.60±38.22
relationships		U=4241.50	U=4616.00
•		p=0.0001****	p=0.0001****
	Positive	126.26±17.82	140.33±37.03
The effect of staying home in the pandemic	Negative	119.08±22.59	135.38±36.35
itself		U=5032.00	U=5722.00
		p=0.03****	p=0.26****
	Authoritarian	$114.65 \pm 22.61$	$133.65 \pm 33.29$
	Democratic	129.87 ± 14.95	149.84 ± 29.53
Family attitude	Overly tolerant	$134.85 \pm 14.75$	$150.66 \pm 36.71$
	Over protective	$118.36 \pm 19.17$	$139.05 \pm 29.29$
rainily attitude	Inconsistent	$102.80 \pm 24.24$	$94.73 \pm 38.14$
	Perfectionist	$109.50 \pm 27.23$	$112.50 \pm 23.57$
	Irrelevant	$95.23 \pm 19.65$	$102.38 \pm 37.88$
		p = 0.001**	p = 0.001**
Covi-19 positivity status	Yes	130.65±15.32	149.28±29.52
	No	119.78±22.04	135.10±37.29
		U=2137.50	U=2514.50
		p=0.02****	p=0.06****
Total	257	120.89±21.68	136.65±36.74
	min:118.21 ma	ax:123.56 min:132.14	max:141.16

\*T test in independent groups. \*\*ANOVA. \*\*\*Kruskal Wallis. \*\*\*\*Mann Whitney U test, p < 0.05.

In all sub-dimensions of the Adolescent-Mother, Father Relationship Inventory filled by adolescents for both their mothers and fathers (close communication, activity together, sensitivity, love and trust, following, regulation of norms, meeting expectations) was determined to be statistically significant (p < 0.05) (Table 3). It was determined that adolescents who stated that the pandemic had a negative impact on their mother-father relationships had low scores in all sub-dimensions of the Adolescent-Mother, Father Relationship Inventory (close communication, Activity together, sensitivity, love and trust, following, regulation of norms, meeting expectations) (Table 3).

**Table 3.** Comparison of the scores of the sub-dimensions of the Adolescent-Mother, Father Relationship Inventory of some demographic and Covid-19 data.

Sub dimensions (Mother)	The effect of the pandemic on your parents' relationships	Adolescent-Mother, Father Relationship Inventory (Mother) X ± SS	
	Positive	23.55±5.94	
Close communication	Negative	18.61±7.53	
Close communication	U=5069.00		
	p=0.	p=0.0001*	
	Positive	21.71±3.75	
Activity together	Negative	17.80±6.01	
Activity together	U=5020.00		
	p=0.0001*		
	Positive	$23.09 \pm 2.62$	
Compitinity	Negative	$20.34 \pm 5.26$	
Sensitivity	U = 5629.50		
	p = 0.0001*		
Love and Trust	Positive	18.30±2.67	
	Negative	15.22±4.33	
	U=4619.50		
	p=0	0.001	

Page 6 of 10 Çelik and Ayar

	Positive 11.27±3.04	
Fellowin a	Negative 09.82±3.29	
Following	U=6117.00	
	p=0.001*	
	Positive 13.71±3.04	
Regulation of norms	Negative 13.13±2.34	
Regulation of norms	U=6901.50	
	p=0.03*	
	Positive 08.37±1.85	
Meeting Expectations	Negative 06.91±2.30	
<b>.</b>	U=5041.50	
Cub dimensions (Fothers)	p=0.0001*	
Sub dimensions (Father)	Positive 27.41±8.97	
Close communication	Negative 20.02±10.05 U=4728.50	
	p=0.0001*	
	Positive 20.77±5.25	
	Negative 15.58±7.21	
Activity together	U=4725.50	
	p=0.0001*	
	Positive 26.66±4.73	
0 11 1	Negative 22.33±27.49	
Sensitivity	U=5302.50	
	p=0.0001*	
	Positive 17.85±3.58	
Love and Trust	Negative 14.49±5.33	
Love and Trust	U=4876.00	
	p=0.0001*	
	Positive 14.06±4.66	
Following	Negative 11.75±4.88	
ronowing	U=5970.50	
	p=0.0001*	
Regulation of norms	Positive 25.49±5.23	
	Negative 22.85±7.08	
	U=6492.50	
	p=0.004*	
Meeting Expectations	Positive 08.28±2.04	
	Negative 06.53±2.54	
	U=4768.50	
Home rules **	p=0.0001*	
	Positive 08.51±1.88	
Home rules **	Negative 07.96±2.37 U=72.75.00 p=0.114*	

 $^\circ\text{Mann}$  Whitney U test, p< 0.05.  $^\circ^\circ\text{This}$  sub-dimension of the scale applies only to fathers.

#### Discussion

Although the Covid-19 pandemic has negative consequences in all age groups, it is known to cause many problems for adolescents. In this process, some problems may arise in family relations, which have a very important place for adolescents, and they may become vulnerable to abuse (Cluver et al., 2020; Fegert, Vitiello, Plener, & Clemens, 2020; Karki, Dhonju, & Kunvar, 2020). In this study, it was aimed to examine the parental relations of adolescents during the pandemic process.

In the current study, adolescents stated that staying at home in the pandemic affected them negatively (Table 1). Many factors such as losses caused by the pandemic, quarantine practices, social restrictions, not being able to go to school and the interruption of peer interaction, feeling of loneliness, decrease in outdoor activities, changes in routines due to spending a lot of time at home, domestic conflict and violence, trigger mental distress in adolescents (Fegert et al., 2020; Zhou et al., 2020). Factors such as the limitations in social interactions of adolescents and the problems they experience with their parents, academic stresses due to obstacles in the field of education, inadequate mental health services for adolescents or not having equal access to services by each adolescent may cause adolescents to be negatively affected during the pandemic process.

Adolescents stated that their mother-father relations were positive before the pandemic, but that their mother-father relations were negatively affected during the pandemic process (Table 1). The COVID-19 pandemic has confronted many parents with difficult choices. Parents have had to deal with the increasing

demands of their children's homeschooling, while trying to meet their employment needs. The demands and increased stress of the parents and the decrease in resources cause the relations between parents and their children to deteriorate (Coyne et al., 2020; Tolan, 2020). On the other hand, the difficulty of establishing relations with children and trying to keep them safe at home is a major source of stress for many parents. In addition, as a result of the decrease in social interactions and limitations in outdoor activities, many children start to become anxious, sad, aggressive, and adolescent's emotions and future plans have been negatively affected (Buzzi et al., 2020; Cluver et al., 2020; Coyne et al., 2020). The fact that parents see themselves as responsible for solving many emotional, mental and economic problems, which are experienced by both adolescents and themselves caused by the pandemic, and the situation, where they cannot share this heavy burden with each other due to communication problems, may cause negativity in the relations between the spouses.

The Adolescent-Mother, Father Relations Inventory scores of adolescents aged between 17-18 and with Covid-19 positivity were determined as low (Table 2). There are studies showing that post-traumatic stress disorder and anxiety problems are common in this age group during the pandemic process (Ahmed et al., 2020; Zhou et al., 2020). In addition, Cui, Li and Zheng (2020) stated that the adolescent with Covid-19 positivity is under more mental risk due to factors such as staying away from their parents during the illness, nightmares and insomnia. In this context, the low parental relations of the adolescent can be explained by the adolescent's transition from a difficult illness process, the presence of pandemic-induced mental distress, trying to overcome strong emotions such as helplessness and anger alone, and making an excessive emotional effort to cope with the emotions of adolescence brought on by his age (Cui et al., 2020).

The Adolescent-Mother, Father Relations Inventory scores of adolescents with broken families and poor parental relations before the pandemic were found to be low (Table 2). After divorce, the quality of the relations that the parents establish with their children is one of the most important factors in children's adaptation to divorce (Gregory, 2013). The consistent attitude of parents is very important for children who experience feelings of uncertainty, insecurity, anxiety and apprehension that divorce would bring (Tezcan, 2017). Increasing the communication of divorced or the divorce-progressing families with their children during the pandemic process, rearranging the program according to the needs of the child and the rules of the pandemic process, including the child in the process while organizing the program, and meeting with the child within the program have been effective in protecting the mental health of children (Caykuş & Mutlu Caykuş, 2020). It can be said that reasons such as the adolescent's inability to bear the emotional burden of divorce, the effort to continue their life with a single parent in the broken family, and the humiliating attitudes of the mothers and fathers, in which they were accusing each other, as well as the inability to see the parents that they were separated due to the pandemic negatively affected the adolescents' mother-father relations.

It was determined that adolescents with indifferent mothers have lower The Adolescent-Mother, Father Relations Inventory scores compared to adolescents with authoritarian, democratic, over-tolerant, overprotective mothers (Table 2). Zhou et al. (2020) stated that children whose parents are angrier or who have worse relationships with their grandparents are more likely to have internalized emotional problems, stress symptoms, and more unhealthy behaviors during the Covid-19 epidemic (Zhou et al., 2020). In addition, in this study, it was determined that adolescents with inconsistent fathers have lower The Adolescent-Mother, Father Relations Inventory scores compared to adolescents with authoritarian, democratic, over-tolerant, over-protective fathers (Table 2). Trahan, Morley and Shafer (2020) stated in his research that a healthy, sincere, frank and close father-adolescent relation contributes positively to the development and mental health of the adolescent. With the help of mothers' and fathers' awareness of how the pandemic may affect children's physical and psychological well-being, and maintaining the open communication, the negative effects of the Covid-19 situation on children can be reduced (Dalton, Rapa, & Stein, 2020; UNICEF, 2020). In this context, mother' and fathers' use of clear patterns in communication, exhibiting consistent, appropriate responses, and an understanding approach by taking into account situations such as emotional confusion, social and educational concerns that the adolescent experiences can have a positive effect on the improvement of adolescents' mother-father relations.

The score average of the The Adolescent-Mother, Father Relations Inventory filled by adolescents for their mothers was  $120.89 \pm 21.68$ , and the mean score of the The Adolescent-Mother, Father Relations Inventory filled for their fathers was  $136.65 \pm 36.74$  (Table 2). Ünal and Kök(2015) found in his research that today fathers are getting away from the traditional father role, and they adopt a new father role, in which they are involved in the development, care and education of the children with the mothers. In addition, Salcı (2020) stated that the father's positive attitude and behavior towards his child, and a good father-child relationship make the

Page 8 of 10 Çelik and Ayar

child feel happy, peaceful and safe. In the COVID-19 process, role expectations related to maternity status have diversified and increased, so the motherhood has been reproduced and shaped (Salci, 2020). In this context, mothers had to undertake and carry out different roles together such as mother, educator, worker etc. In addition to the fact that adolescents' father relations are better than their mother relations, the workload, roles and responsibilities of mothers have differentiated and increased during the pandemic process, it is thought that the changing and improving roles of the father are also effective today.

Adolescents who stated that the pandemic had a negative impact on their mother-father relations had low scores in all sub-dimensions of the The Adolescent-Mother, Father Relations Inventory (close communication, cooperative activity, sensitivity, love and trust, monitoring, regulation of norms, meeting the expectations) (Table 3). Chung, Lanier and Wong (2020) stated that high parental stress during the pandemic process is associated with stronger parenting and weaker relationships (Chung et al., 2020). Usher, Bhullar, Durkin, Gyamfi, and Jackson(2020) and Bradbury and Isham (2020), on the other hand, showed that the increasing responsibilities at home and the increasing mental burden of parents trying to cope with the economic, social and emotional losses brought about by the pandemic means that the source of emotional support for the adolescent is decreasing; the studies also stated that increased domestic stress increases the risk of conflict and violent behavior at home (Bradbury & Isham, 2020; Usher et al., 2020). Low Mother-Father relations of the adolescents can be explained by the high level of reactivity of stressed parents to the adolescent, the anxiety caused by economic losses, and the reflections of this in their relations with the adolescent, as well as the inability to find the closeness and support that the adolescent needs in her/his developmental period in the mother-father relations.

#### Limitation

The study has a few limitations. One of them could not be collected face to face due to the Covid-19 pandemic. In addition, in order to participate in the study and fill out the questionnaire, the participant must have a device that supports the program, an internet connection, and the ability to fill in the questionnaire. People with these limitations had to be excluded from the study.

# Conclusion

As a result, it was determined that adolescents experienced difficulties during the pandemic process in their parent relationships, which they expressed as good before the pandemic. With the support that can be given to parents, it can be ensured that adolescents get rid of this process without being damaged as much as possible by increasing the mental resilience of parents. At the same time, better development results can be achieved in adolescents' behavioral, intellectual, emotional and social skills.

### Acknowledgements

We thank to all individuals who participated in the study.

#### References

- Ahmed, Z., Ahmed, O., Aibao, Z., Hanbin, S., Siyu, L., & Ahmad, A. (2020). Epidemic of COVID-19 in China and associated psychological problems. *Asian Journal of Psychiatry*, *51*, 102092. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajp.2020.102092.
- Bradbury-Jones, C., & Isham, l. (2020). The pandemic paradox: The consequences of COVID-19 on domestic violence. *Journal of Clinical Nursing.*, *29*(13-14), 2047-2049. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1111/jocn.15296.
- Branje, S. (2018). Development of parent–adolescent relationships: Conflict interactions as a mechanism of change. *Child Development Perspectives*, *12*(3), 171-176. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1111/cdep.12278.
- Brooks, S. K., Webster, R. K., Smith, L. E., Woodland, L., Wessely, S., Greenberg, N., & Rubin, G. J. (2020). The psychological impact of quarantine and how to reduce it: rapid review of the evidence. *The Lancet, 395*(10227), 912-920. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/s0140-6736(20)30460-8.
- Buzzi, C., Tucci, M., Ciprandi, R., Brambilla, I., Caimmi, S., Ciprandi, G., & Marseglia, G. L. (2020). The psycho-social effects of COVID-19 on Italian adolescents' attitudes and behaviors. *Italian Journal of Pediatrics*, 46(69), 2-7. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1186/s13052-020-00833-4.

- Caykuş, E. T., & Mutlu Caykuş, T. (2020). Ways to promote children' resiliency to the Covid-19 pandemic suggestions for families, teachers and mental health specialists. *Asead Avrasya Sosyal ve Ekonomi Araştırmaları Dergisi*, 7(5), 95-113.
- Chung, G., Lanier, P., & Wong, P. Y. J. (2020). Mediating effects of parental stress on harsh parenting and parent-child relationship during Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic in Singapore. *Journal of Family Violence*, *37*, 801-812.DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/s10896-020-00200-1.
- Chen, B., Sun, J., & Feng, Y. (2020). How have COVID-19 isolation policies affected young people's mental health? Evidence from chinese college students. *Frontiers in Psychology, 11*, Article 1529. DOI: https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2020.01529.
- Cluver, L., Lachman, J. M., Sherr, L., Wessels, I., Krug, E., Rakotomalala, S., ... McDonald, K. (2020). Parenting in a time of COVID-19. *The Lancet*, 395(10231), E64. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/s0140-6736(20)30736-4.
- Coyne, L. W., Gould. E. R., Grimaldi, M., Wilson, K. G., Baffuto, G., & Anthony, B. (2020). First things first: Parent psychological flexibility and self-compassion during COVID-19. *Behavior Analysis in Practice, 14*, 1092-1098. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/s40617-020-00435-w.
- Cui, Y., Li, Y., & Zheng, Y. (2020). Mental health services for children in China during the COVID-19 pandemic: Results of an expert-based national survey among child and adolescent psychiatric hospitals. *European Child & Adolescent Psychiatry*, 29(743-748). DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/s00787-020-01548-x.
- Dalton, L., Rapa, E., & Stein, A. (2020). Protecting the psychological health of children through effective communication about COVID-19. *The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health, 4*(5), 346-347. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/s2352-4642(20)30097-3.
- Donker, M. H., Mastrotheodoros, S., & Branje, S. (2020). Development of parent-adolescent relationships during the COVID-19 pandemic: the role of stress and coping. *Developmental Psychology*, *57*(10), 1611-1622. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1037/dev0001212.
- Ellis, W. E., Dumas, T. M., & Forbes, L. M. (2020). Physically isolated but socially connected: Psychological adjustment and stress among adolescents during the initial COVID-19 crisis. *Canadian Journal of Behavioural Science*, *52*(3), 177-187. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1037/cbs0000215.
- Ezpeleta, L., Navarro, J. B., Osa, de la N., Trepat, E., & Penelo, E. (2020). Life conditions during COVID-19 lockdown and mental health in spanish adolescents. *International Journal of Environmental and Research and Public Health*, *17*(19), 7327. DOI: https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph17197327.
- Fegert, J. M., Vitiello, B., Plener, P. L., & Clemens, V. (2020). Challenges and burden of the Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic for child and adolescent mental health: A narrative review to highlight clinical and research needs in the acute phase and the long return to normality. *Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Mental Health.*, *14*(20). DOI: https://doi.org/10.1186/s13034-020-00329-3.
- Giorgio, E. Di, Riso, D. Di, Mioni, G., & Cellini, N. (2021). The interplay between mothers' and children behavioral and psychological factors during COVID-19: An Italian study. *European Child & Adolescent Psychiatry*, *30*, 1401-1412. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/s00787-020-01631-3.
- Gregory, N. (2013). Effects of divorce on children. *Current Approaches in Psychiatry*, *5*(2), 140-161. DOI: https://doi.org/10.5455/cap.20130510.
- Holmes, E. A., O'Connor, R. C., Perry, V. H., Tracey, I., Wessely, S., Arseneault, L., ... Bullmore, E. (2020). Multidisciplinary research priorities for the Covid-19 pandemic: a call for action for mental health science. *The Lancet Psychiatry*, 7(6), 547-560. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/s2215-0366(20)30168-1.
- Horton, R. (2020). Offline: 2019-nCoV-"A desperate plea". *The Lancet*, 395(10222), 400. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016%2FS0140-6736(20)30299-3.
- Kaner, S. (2000). Kontrol kuramına dayalı ana-baba ergen ilişkileri ölçeği geliştirme çalışması. *Ankara Üniversitesi Eğitim Bilimleri Fakültesi Dergisi*, *33*(1-2), 67-75. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1501/Egifak\_0000000025.
- Karki, U., Dhonju, G., & Kunvar, A. R. (2020). Parenting during the COVID-19 pandemic. *JNMA Journal of Nepal Medical Association*, 58(231), 957-959. DOI: https://doi.org/10.31729/jnma.5319.
- Masten, A. S., & Motti-Stefanidi, F. (2020). Multisystem resilience for children and youth in disaster: reflections in the context of COVID-19. *Adversity and Resilience Science, 1*, 95-106. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/s42844-020-00010-w.

Page 10 of 10 Çelik and Ayar

National Health Commission of the People's Republic of China [NHCPRC]. (2020). *Guideline for psychological crisis intervention during 2019-nCoV*. Recovered from https://www.scirp.org/(S(351jmbntv-nsjt1aadkposzje))/reference/referencespapers.aspx?referenceid=3072708

- Orgilés, M., Morales, A., Delvecchio, E., Mazzeschi, C., & Espada, J. P. (2020). Immediate psychological effects of the COVID-19 quarantine in youth from Italy and Spain. *Frontiers in Psychology, 11*, Article 579038. DOI: https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2020.579038.
- Perelli-Harris, B., & Walzenbach, S. (2020). How has the Covid-19 crisis impacted parents' relationships with their children?. *ResearchGate*. Retrieved from
  - https://www.researchgate.net/publication/342816731\_How\_has\_the\_Covid-19\_crisis\_impacted\_parents\_relationships\_with\_their\_children
- Prime, H., Wade, M., & Browne, D. T. (2020). Risk and resilience in family wellbeing during the COVID-19 pandemic. *American Psychologist*, *75*(5), 631-643. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1037/amp0000660.
- Salcı, O. (2020). Investigation of the Effect of Father Support Education Program on Perception of Fatherhood Role and Development of Play Skills of Children Receiving Preschool Education (Master's thesis, Karabük University). http://acikerisim.karabuk.edu.tr:8080/xmlui/bitstream/handle/123456789/807/10221740.pdf?sequence=1&isAll owed=y
- Su, B., Yu, C., Zhang, W., Su, Q., Zhu, J., & Jiang, Y. (2018). Father-child longitudinal relationship: parental monitoring and internet gaming disorder in Chinese adolescents. *Frontiers Psychology, 9*. DOI: https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2018.00095.
- Tezcan, G. (2017). Comparing and investigating the personality patterns of the individuals according to marital status of their parents and demographic variables (Master's thesis, Haliç University). https://tez.yok.gov.tr/UlusalTezMerkezi/tezDetay.jsp?id=vVK2jyoUd0C1W53HZRWQGw&no=8YH9U-LsPE4fzc5x8vaEew
- Tolan, C. (2020). *Some cities see jumps in domestic violence during the pandemic*. Retrieved from https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/04/us/domestic-violence-coronavirus-calls-cases-increase-invs/index.html
- Trahan, M. H., Morley, R., & Shafer, K. (2020). Father-adolescent relationship closeness: A path analysis of family factor associates with father-adolescent engagement and relationship quality. *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal*, *38*, 261-282.
- Ünal, F., & Kök, E. E. (2015). The opinions of parents who have children between the ages of 0-6 about fatherhood role. *International Journal of Social Sciences and Education Research*, *1*(4), 1142-1153. DOI: https://doi.org/10.24289/ijsser.279124.
- UNICEF, (2020). *How to talk to your child about coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)*. Retrieved from: https://www.unicef.org.au/stories/how-to-talk-to-your-children-about-coronavirus
- Usher, K., Bhullar, N., Durkin, J., Gyamfi, N., & Jackson, D. (2020). Family violence and COVID-19: Increased vulnerability and reduced options for support. *International Journal of Mental Health Nursing, 29*(4), 549-552. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1111/inm.12735.
- Ustuner Top, F. (2015). *One step to adulthood: adolescent health book* (AF Ocakçı Ed., 1st ed.). Göktuğ Publishing.
- Walsh, F. (2020). Loss and resilience in the time of COVID-19: meaning making, hope, and transcendence. *Family Process*, *59*(3), 898-911. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1111/famp.12588.
- Woźniak-Prus, M., Gambin, M., Sękowski, M., Cudo, A., Pisula, E., Kiepura- Nawrocka, E., ... Kmita, G. (2023). Positive experiences in the parent–child relationship during the COVID-19 lockdown in Poland: the role of emotion regulation, empathy, parenting self-efficacy, and social support. *Family Process*, 63(1), 443-468. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1111/famp.12856.
- Zhou, S.-J., Zhang, L.-G., Wang, L.-L., Guo, Z.-C., Wang, J.-Q., Chen, ... Chen, J.-X. (2020). Prevalence and socio-demographic correlates of psychological health problems in Chinese adolescents during the outbreak of COVID-19. *European Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, 29*, 749-758. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/s00787-020-01541-4.