

group of friends or how comfortable he was in speaking with his friends about his problems, among other things related with the peer group. Equally, questions were included regarding parental styles and the communication with the father and mother.

### Intimacy at adolescent's friendships in a longitudinal study

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As children move into adolescence, friendships evolve into more intimate, supportive relationships. Friends begin to value intimacy more but does this increasing pattern persist throughout adolescence? Does intimacy decrease after its first peak during preadolescence? Are there gender differences in terms of intimacy and are these differences maintained during adolescence? To answer these questions, a longitudinal study was designed using the Intimate Friendship Scale (Sharabany, 1994).

The sample was made up of a total of 100 teenagers (38 boys and 62 girls), all attending public and private schools in the Spanish province of Seville. They fulfilled the intimate friendship scale the first time when they were 13-14 years old and, then in the middle (15-16 years old) and late adolescence (17-18 years old).

The results show that intimacy in friendships increases in the course of adolescence in girls as well as boys. Nevertheless, girls always show more intimacy than boys in their friendships. Our discussion considers the data taking into account differences in gender, as well as the implications of an increase in intimacy in friendships and their effect on future personal relationships like those in the context of the couple.

### Reasons for peer acceptance and rejection during adolescence

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In the context of a study of adolescents peer relationships, sociometric status was measured with a nomination scale in a sample of 1.000 students 15-16 years old selected from 45 secondary schools of Seville (Spain). The purpose of the present poster is to explore the reasons given by adolescents for accept or reject their peers. We have found a wide variety of reasons for accept o reject peers during adolescence, being the more frequent reasons for acceptance "fun", "affinity" and "friendly". The "non-affinity", "non-contact" and "to be annoying, pest or provocative" are the principal reasons for rejection. These results states that acceptance and rejection have specific profiles during adolescence. By means of these results, our conclusion is that is necessary to define sociometric status in an age focused way.

### The influence of parental and peer attachment in loneliness

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Following past work, we propose that the relationship between attachment and loneliness is relationship specific. In this study, we explore the influence of late adolescents' perceptions of parental and peer attachment in the experience of loneliness and aloneness, by analysing the predictive effect of attachment dimensions in loneliness. A total of 374 university students of Oporto University completed an adaptation of the Loneliness and Aloneness Scale for Children and Adolescents (LACA, Marcoen, Goossens & Caes, 1987) and of the Social and Emotional Loneliness Scale for Adults (SELSA; DiTommaso & Spinner, 1993), the Father/Mother Attachment Questionnaire (FMAQ, Matos, Almeida & Costa, 1998), and the Inventory of Parent and Peer attachment (IPPA; Armsden & Greenberg, 1987). Regression analyses report significant influences of attachment dimensions in loneliness feelings. Parental attachment shows a strong effect in the experience of parental-related loneliness and a moderate effect (specifically of the inhibition of exploration and individuality to mother dimension) in peer-related loneliness. Peer attachment only influenced peer-related loneliness. Results are discussed in terms of the potential usefulness of attachment theory as a framework to understand the experience of loneliness.