

# XVIII INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE DAYS OF APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY

# CURRENT CHALLENGES IN PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE

**BOOK OF ABSTRACTS** 

Niš, Serbia 23rd and 24th September, 2022



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### **DAYS OF APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY**





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Department of Psychology, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Niš, Serbia

## 18<sup>th</sup> International Conference DAYS OF APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY 2022

### **Current Challenges in Psychological Science**

# **BOOK OF ABSTRACTS**



Niš, Serbia | September 23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> 2022.

# Thematic Session Clinical Psychology & Mental Health

# THE ROLE OF NARCISSISTIC ADMIRATION IN THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PERCEIVED STRESS AND MENTAL HEALTH OUTCOMES

# Anja Žujović & Veljko Jovanović Faculty of Philosophy, University of Novi Sad, Serbia

Research findings on the mental health benefits of narcissism have been inconsistent. The present study examined the protective role of narcissistic admiration (NARC - The Narcissistic Admiration and Rivalry Concept) at the beginning of COVID-19 pandemic lockdown. Using hierarchical regression analysis, two hypotheses were tested: Hypothesis 1 - predicting the protective role of narcissism (Narcissistic Admiration and Rivalry Questionnaire Short Scale) between perceived stress (Percieved Stress Scale 4) and general well-being (Mental Health Continuum - Short Form), and Hypothesis 2 – predicting the protective role of narcissism between perceived stress and anxiety (Six-item State-Trait Anxiety Inventory). The sample consisted of 744 participants from Serbia (age range 18-67; M = 25.00; SD = 9.57), with 439 males and 335 females. Narcissistic admiration was positively correlated with general well-being (r = .21, p < .01), and negatively correlated with anxiety (r = -.09, p < .01). The results did not support the moderating role of narcissistic admiration in the perceived stress and general well-being relationship ( $\beta = .053, p > .05$ ). Contrary to our expectations, individuals reporting higher levels of stress, while scoring high on narcissistic admiration showed more symptoms of anxiety than those scoring lower ( $\beta$  = .073, p < .01). In other words, narcissistic admiration proved to be a vulnerability factor. Despite both hypotheses being rejected, results are in line with previous findings that emphasize the role of sense of agency in reducing distress among individuals high on narcissistic admiration. Practical and theoretical implications of the findings will be discussed.

Keywords: narcissism, narcissistic admiration, resilience, coronavirus pandemic

### DAYS OF APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY

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