

## Parenting Styles and Their Relation to Videogame Addiction

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**Abstract :** We try to identify the role of various aspects of parenting style in the phenomenon of videogame playing addiction. Relevant self-report questionnaires were part of a wider set of methods focused on the constructs related to videogame playing. The battery of methods was administered in school settings in paper and pencil form. The research sample consisted of 333 (166 males, 167 females) elementary and high school students at the age between 10 and 19 years ( $m=14.98$ ,  $sd=1.77$ ). Using stepwise regression analysis, we assessed the influence of demographic variables (gender and age) and parenting styles. Age and gender together explained 26.3% of game addiction variance ( $F(2,330)=58.81$ ,  $p<.01$ ). By adding four aspect of parenting styles (inconsistency, involvement, control, and warmth) another 10.2% of variance was explained ( $\Delta F(4,326)=13.09$ ,  $p<.01$ ). The significant predictor was gender of the respondent, where males scored higher on game addiction scale ( $B=0.70$ ,  $p<.01$ ), age ( $\beta=-0.18$ ,  $p<.01$ ), where younger children showed higher level of addiction, and parental inconsistency ( $\beta=0.30$ ,  $p<.01$ ), where the higher the inconsistency in upbringing, the more developed game playing addiction.

**Keywords :** gender, parenting styles, video games, addiction

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