

Predictors of School Drop out among High School Students

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Abstract : The factors that cause adolescents to drop out school were several. One of the frameworks about school dropout focuses on the contextual factors around the adolescents whereas the other one focuses on individual factors. It can be said that both factors are important equally. In this study, both adolescent's individual factors (anti-social behaviors, academic success) and contextual factors (parent academic involvement, parent academic support, number of siblings, living with parent) were examined in the term of school dropout. The study sample consisted of 346 high school students in the public schools in Ankara who continued their education in 2015-2016 academic year. One hundred eighty-five the students (53.5%) were girls and 161 (46.5%) were boys. In addition to this 118 of them were in ninth grade, 122 of them in tenth grade and 106 of them were in eleventh grade. Multiple regression and one-way ANOVA statistical methods were used. First, it was examined if the data meet the assumptions and conditions that are required for regression analysis. After controlling the assumptions, regression analysis was conducted. Parent academic involvement, parent academic support, number of siblings, anti-social behaviors, academic success variables were taken into the regression model and it was seen that parent academic involvement ($t=-3.023$, $p < .01$), anti-social behaviors ($t=7.038$, $p < .001$), and academic success ($t=-3.718$, $p < .001$) predicted school dropout whereas parent academic support ($t=-1.403$, $p > .05$) and number of siblings ($t=-1.908$, $p > .05$) didn't. The model explained 30% of the variance ($R=.557$, $R^2=.300$, $F_{5,345}=30.626$, $p < .001$). In addition to this the variance, results showed there was no significant difference on high school students school dropout levels according to living with parents or not ($F_{2,345}=1.183$, $p > .05$). Results discussed in the light of the literature and suggestion were made. As a result, academic involvement, academic success and anti-social behaviors will be considered as an important factors for preventing school drop-out.

Keywords : adolescents, anti-social behavior, parent academic involvement, parent academic support, school dropout

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