

Do Personal Characteristics of the Pregnant Affect the Fear of Child Birth?

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This study was carried out in descriptive and cross-sectional type to determine the effect of personal characteristics of the pregnant on the fear of childbirth. A total of 422 pregnant women were included in the study. The data were collected between 01 May, 2016 and 01 August, 2016. A Pregnancy Information Form, Big Five Personality Test, and the Wijma Delivery Expectancy Questionnaire (W-DEQ) Version A were used in data collection process. The mean age of the participants was 24.73 + 4.48 (Min: 18, Max: 45). 58.8 % of them had secondary or high school education, while 31.3 % were found to have higher education or over. 64.4 % of the participants' longest settlement was a province and 68.2% had nuclear family type. The study found that as the score for agreeableness and conscientiousness, two of the personal characteristics, increased, the state of planning pregnancy increased as well ($p = .000$). A negative statistically significant relationship was found between W-DEQ A median and agreeableness, extraversion, conscientiousness and emotional stability personality characteristics ($r = .190$, $r = -.203$, $r = -.186$, $r = -.315$, $p = .000$ respectively). These findings have important practical implications concerning the planning of antenatal care for the pregnant. Defining the personal characteristics of the pregnant can make a contribution to handling the care of the individuals with personal characteristics related to the fear of childbirth primarily in the antenatal period.

Keywords: personality, fear of childbirth, childbirth

Biography:

Menekşe Nazlı AKER received her B.S. degree in Nursing from Selcuk University (2007), M.Sc. degree in Obstetrics and Gynecological Nursing from Selcuk University (2010). Currently, she is continuing her Ph.D. education in Nursing. She worked as a lecturer at Selcuk University Akşehir School of Health Department of Nursing (2010-2015), then moved to Department of Midwifery at Ankara University Faculty of Health Science (2015-). She is interested in childbirth preparation training, complementary medicine applications, obstetric nursing, sexual health, nursing informatics.