Parental worldviews and self-efficacy as determinants of overprotective parenting

"I love your new backpack!"
@éres, Ecole des Parents, #634-2020

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Theoretical Background

OVERPROTECTIVE PARENTING
→ level of protection that is excessive considering the child's developmental level (Thomasgard et al., 1995)
→ negative outcomes for children
→ associated with parents' anxiety

(Venard et al., 2022).

Theoretical Background

NEGATIVE WORLDVIEWS

→ **Culture of fear** (Haidt & Lukianoff, 2018; Furedi, 2008)

→ Beliefs that the world is not safe, instable and there might not be enough ressources for everyone (Gurland & Grolnick, 2005)

→ may make parents more or less sensitive to cues about threat for their children.

@IndianExpress

Theoretical Background

PARENTAL SELF-EFFICACY

→ parents' perception on their capacity to successfully raise their children (Jones and Prinz, 2005; Bandura, 1997)

→ predictor of parenting behavior and child outcomes

Research goals

Negative worldviews

→ elicit overprotective parenting?

→ moderating role of parental self-efficacy?

Sample

- Data collected through schools in Belgium

- N= 758 parents of adolescents

- 479 mothers (63%) and 279 fathers

- Adolescents' age: M= 16.4 (0.78)

- 54% girls and 46% boys

- Parents' age: M= 49 (5.04)

- Parent's education: 48,3% have a university degree

Instruments

Overprotective parenting (10 items, MOPS, Chevrier et al., 2021)

  . "*I often take tasks out of my child's hands without giving him/her the chance to try them by him/herself*"

  . $\alpha = .82-.82$ (M-F)

Parental Self-Efficacy (4 items, MaaP, Hamilton et al., 2015)

  . Global PSE

  . "*I have confidence in myself as a parent.*"

  . $\alpha = .84 -.85$ (M-F)
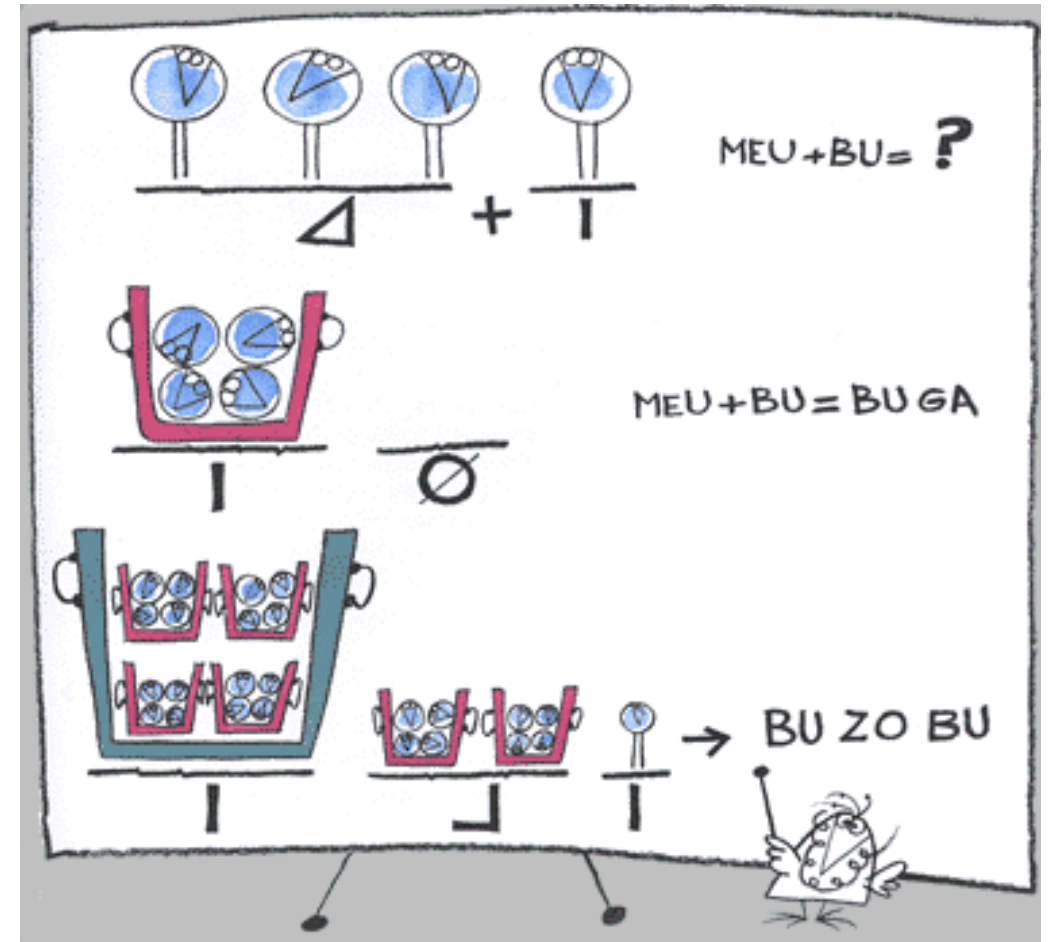
Negative worldviews (10 items, World Out There (Gurland & Grolnick 2005)

  . "*It makes me nervous to think about all the dangers kids are exposed to today*"

  . $\alpha = .94 -.93$ (M-F)

Analysis strategy

- Separate models for mothers and fathers
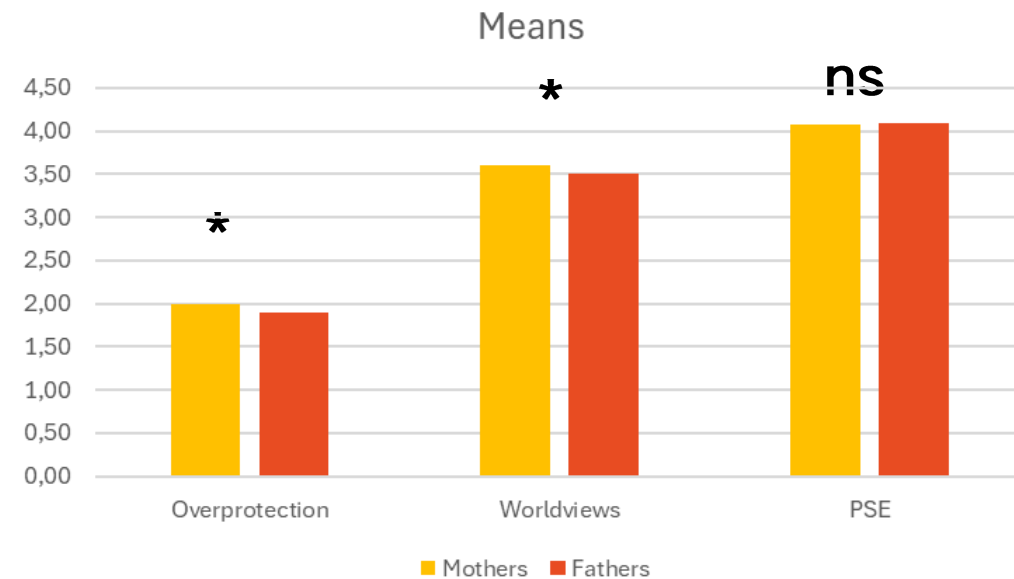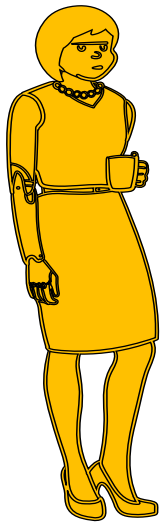- Linear regression models
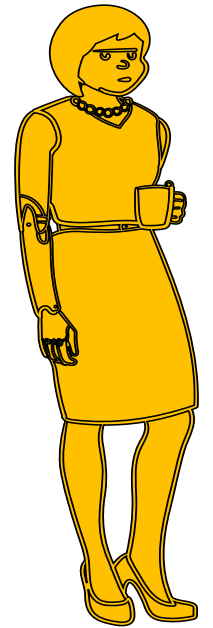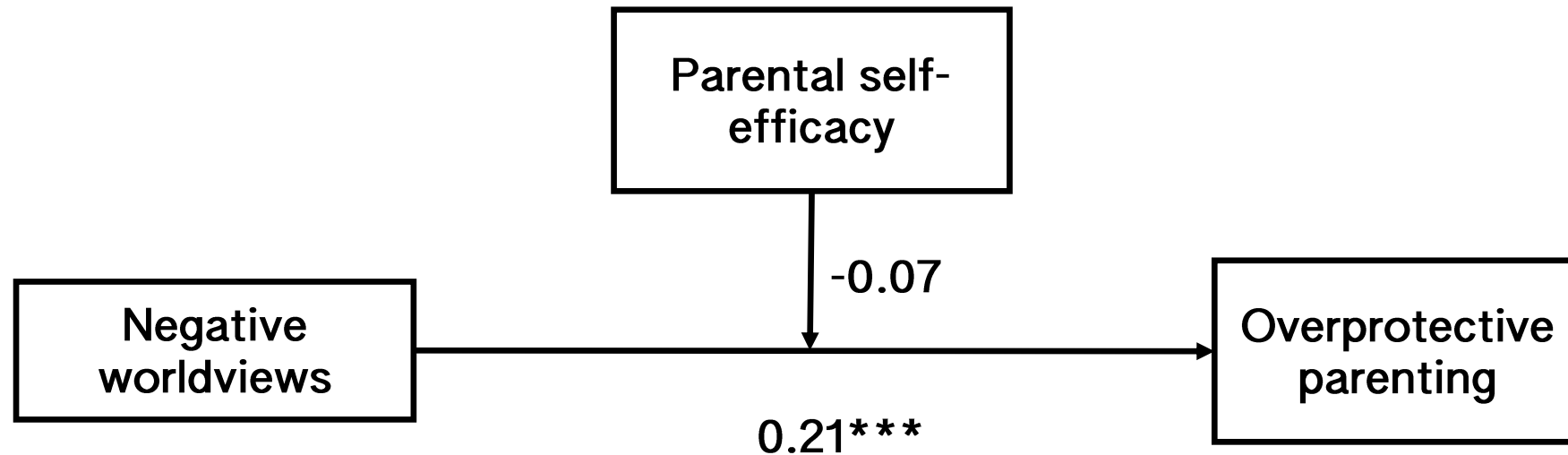
Results

Preliminary analyses

	Over-protection	World-views	PSE	Age
Overprotection	—	0.282***	- 0.173**	- 0.077
Worldviews	0.238***	—	- 0.084	- 0.065
PSE	- 0.206***	- 0.060	—	0.010
AGE	- 0.103*	0.003	- 0.036	—

* p < .05, ** p < .01, *** p < .001

Means

* ns

Mothers   Fathers

Results

Mothers model

Parental self-efficacy

Negative worldviews

Overprotective parenting

-0.07

0.21***

Stand. estimates; ***p<.001

Results

Fathers model

Parental self-efficacy

0.015

Negative worldviews → Anxious overprotection

0.28***
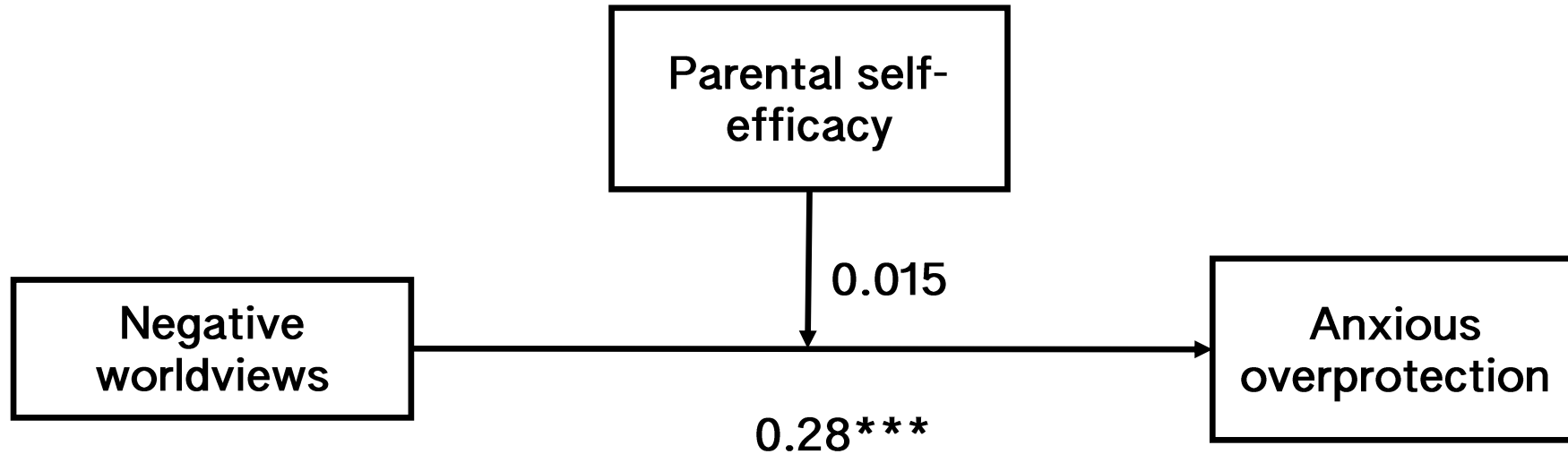
Stand. estimates; ***p<.001

Discussion

- Negative worldviews are related to overprotective parenting

- PSE is also related – negatively - to overprotective parenting

-> for mothers and fathers

I don't care about my kids' future"

... said no one ever.

Discussion

- Negative worldviews : concern for overprotective parenting

- No buffering role of PSE in the relation between negative worldviews- overprotection
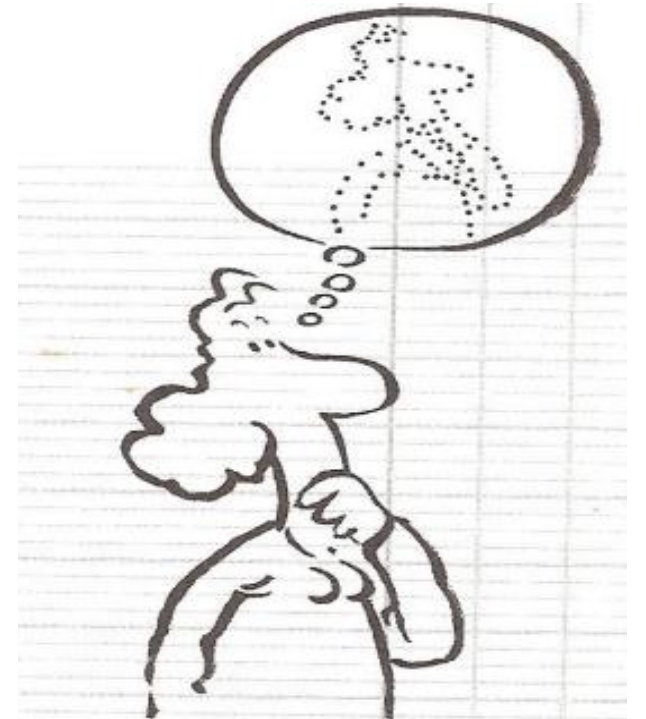
Thank you

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