



**BENHA UNIVERSITY  
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DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH**

**A Study of Fear of Success And Its Relationship to Self-esteem  
And Locus of Control Among A Sample of Gifted Females**

**A Thesis Submitted by**

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**Introduction :**



Caring for and developing human power is considered one of the vital requirements of this age. No doubt, the gifted females represent tremendous power that require devoting interest for and utilizing this important category that play an important role in advancing society. The gifted may be liable to some problems as :

- Underachievement, Fear of success among the adolescent females, lack of trust, avoiding competition and responsibility, fear of failure, low self – concept, and problems related to profession and the personal choice of it.

The problem of fear of success and its prevalence among the gifted females is a relatively recent problem. Underachievement among the gifted females could be interpreted and be based on several causes as : feeling the envy of the surrou, nders, feeling loneliness , fearing the increasing responsibility as consequence to success, fearing the show of hostility in front of peers, the desire of breaking normal life, the desire of integrating with normal peers, fearing the society rejection of female success. All these can be interpreted as the female's fear of success leads them to their underachievement.

Fear of success is related to both of low self – esteem and external locus of control among the individuals, especially the females. So, the problem of the present study lies in recognizing fear of success and its relationship to self – esteem and locus of control among adolescent gifted females.

The problem of the present study can be represented in the following question :



- Is there a relationship between fear of success and both of self – esteem, and locus of control [internal – external] among the gifted females?

#### The study significance :

The importance of the present study lies in :

- 1- Highlighting the gifted females as a special category that have its mental, social, and emotional characteristics and needs more care and interest.
- 2- Handling fear of success as a personal problem that the gifted females may suffer from and negatively affects their abilities and negatively affects their abilities and achievement.
- 3- Contributing to the theoretical background of the concept of fear of success as a relatively recent variable.
- 4- Predicting fear of success among the gifted females through their self – esteem, and locus of control, which helps identify the causes of their fear of success.

#### The study objectives :

##### **The present study aims at :**

- 1- Recognizing the relationship between fear of success and self – esteem among the gifted females.
- 2- Recognizing the relationship between fear of success and locus of control (internal – external) among the gifted females.
- 3- Identifying to what extent fear of success among the gifted females, can be predicted from self – esteem and locus of control (internal - external)?



### Study sample :

The sample of the present study consisted of “140” gifted adolescent females with GPA more than 90% , and IQ “120-140” , had the ability of creative thinking, and their parents highly estimated their abilities.

### Study tools :

- 1- The fear of success among University gifted female students scale (Prepared by / the present researcher)
- 2- The self – Esteem scale (Prepared by Hudson (1994) translated by magdy El-dosouqu, 2004).
- 3- The locus of control scale (Prepared by Router, Translated by / Alaa El-din Kafafy, 1982).
- 4- Tools for sample selection :
  - a- the high IQ test (prepared by El- Sayed Khairi).
  - b- The creative thinking Ability Test (Prepared by / foad Abo- Hatab).
  - c- The Gifted females characteristics Inventory (undertaken by parents) (Prepared by / the present researcher).

### Study statistic Methods :

- 1- The correlation coefficient.
- 2- T –test .
- 3- The Multiple Regression Analysis (SPSS).

### The study results :

The results of the study are :

- 1- There is statistically significant Positive correlation between the scores of the gifted females on the fear of success scale and their scores on the self – esteem Inventory, for the whole sample of the study.
- 2- There are statistically significant differences between the scores means of the gifted females (with low and



high fear of success) on the self- esteem Inventory, in Favor of the gifted females with high fear of success.

- 3- There is statistically significant positive correlation between the scores of the gifted females on the fear of success scale and their scores on the locus of control scale , for the whole sample of the study.
- 4- There are statistically significant differences between the scores means of the gifted females (with low and high fear of success) on the locus of control Scale (internal), in favor of the gifted females with low fear of success.
- 5- There are statistically significant differences between the scores means of the gifted females (with low and high fear of success) on the locus of control Scale (external), in favor of the gifted females with high fear of success.
- 6- The fear of success of the gifted females can be predicted from their levels of self – esteem and locus of control (internal – external).