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<b>Article:</b>	<b>Effect of Social Comparison on Schadenfreude: Moderating Role of Interpersonal Jealousy among Adolescents</b>
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**Abstract**

The study investigates the predictors of schadenfreude by studying the moderating role of interpersonal jealousy. Firstly, the study intended to investigate the predictors of schadenfreude among adolescents university students. Secondly the study examined the moderating role of interpersonal jealousy between interpersonal jealousy and social comparison. In this regard, Social comparison leads towards schadenfreude and interpersonal jealousy were moderate their relationship at adolescent's age. Participants comprised of 300 adolescent's. Data was collected by administering schadenfreude Questionnaire, Batool, 2013. Interpersonal jealousy Questionnaire and social comparison Questionnaire. SPSS-20 has been used for data analysis. The study has been administered. Social comparison had positive correlation with Schadenfreude. Interpersonal jealousy had Positive correlation with Schadenfreude. Thus the Social comparison and interpersonal jealousy are positive analysts of schadenfreude.

**Keywords:** Social Comparison, Schadenfreude: Interpersonal Jealousy

## Introduction

Social comparison idea forms that we monitor to inferior ourselves to others we trust on are like to ourselves, generally to manage our own heights of abilities and accomplishments (Festinger, 1954). Social comparisons authority be an competent intelligent Tool to gain self-knowledge without compulsory to many reasonable properties (Mussweiler&Epstude,2009). Thus, social comparison was direct related to social adaptation (Yang, 2016).On the additional hand, some earlier studies offered that social comparison was related with adolescents' ASC (Möller and Marsh, 2013).As recommended by Sabatini and Sarracino (2015), Earlier studies open that social comparison was linked to these three modules: supportive conclusion making (behavioral component; Gong and Sanfey, 2017)Present studies provision the idea that social group size effects the results of social comparisons (Garcia et al., 2013).

In social relationships, people with great self-esteem notice others positively and reflect that they are socially accepted, whereas persons with little self-respect notice others negatively and are delicate to others' refusal (Lee, Dickson, Conley, & Holmbeck, 2014a). Jealousy is an feeling; the period generally refers to the opinions or moods of absence of self-confidence, fear, concern, and envy over relative lack of stuff, point or something of great private value, mainly in situation to a comparator jealousy and its associated emotion of envy (Konstan & Rutter 2003; Konstan 2006; Sanders 2014).

Envy is of specific interest, as it has been conventionally known to have a great effect on human relationships in an organization (Thompson et al., 2015). Adverse feelings such as distress must be present for negative social comparison to lead to negative significances of envy (Thompson et al., 2015). The joy felt as a result of another person's misfortune is referred to as Schadenfreude (Feather & Sherman, 2002). This is in line with the Dominance Theory of Humor, which focuses on Schadenfreude (Hurley, Dennet, & Adams, 2011). Hatred envy provokes greater schadenfreude than benign envy, according to previous studies, and this impact is independent of other antecedents of schadenfreude, such as deservingness of the achievement or inferiority (Vande Ven, Hoogland, Smith, van Dijk, Breugelmans, & Zeelenberg, 2014). We anticipate that an unjustly elevated position of authority will generate even more venomous jealousy. As a result, there is a surge of schadenfreude (Van de Ven et al., 2014). Schadenfreude is often used to build self-worth (van Dijk, van Koningsbruggen, Ouwerkerk & Wesseling, 2011).

## Method

The present was grounded on cross-sectional study investigation design. Trial of the existing study consisted of adolescents ( $N = 300$ ) with age of 18 to 25 years. According to the current study the model is divided into two clusters. Male participants in the study have greater moods of schadenfreude ( $M = 86.49$ ,  $SD = 11.39$ ) as compare to females ( $M = 74.49$ ,  $SD = 25.72$ ). According to APA (2002), the most normally used chronologic description of adolescence involve the age of 10 to 18, but may integrate a span of 9 to 26 years depending on the source. Data was collected from university students. Purposive sampling method will be used to gather the data. Initially written agreement was taken from authorities for data collection. Informed consent was obtained from immediate participants' sample. The current study will be grounded on cross-sectional survey research design.

## Measures

Social comparison scale is developed by Bunnk, (1999). It is consisting of 11 items and all the items were positively worded. Higher scores indicate more severe interpersonal jealousy. The reliability of this scale is .92. The scoring of this scale is in the form of Low-High scores. Interpersonal Jealousy Scale is developed by Riaz (2012). It is consisting on 10 items and all the items were positively worded. Higher scores indicate more severe interpersonal jealousy. The reliability of this scale is .90. The minimum scores on this scale are 10 and the

maximum scores are 50. The scoring of this scale is in the form of Low-High scores. It is valid scale for measuring the interpersonal jealousy. Schadenfreude Scale is developed by Batool (2013). It is consisting on 28 items and all the items were positively worded. Higher scores indicate more severe schadenfreude. The reliability of this scale is .82. The minimum scores on this scale are 28 and the maximum scores are 140. The scoring of this scale is in the form of low-high scores. The item included feelings of negative attitude toward the world, negative intentions toward the world.

### Procedure

The investigators taken official written permission from the worried authorities of the placed educational institutions. The researchers gave briefing related to the nature, motive and significance of the research. Data was taken from individual participants. It was communicated that all the data would only be used for lookup purpose. Written informed consent will be taken from the participants. The researcher efficiently responded to the queries of the data providers before, during and after the completion of the questionnaires. After the finishing point of the scales, the investigator scanned the scales to confirm that all the tools were successfully responded.

### Results

**Table 1**

*Psychometrics of Variables*

Variables	N	M	SD	$\alpha$	Range		Skewness	Kurtosis
					Potential	Actual		
Social comparison	300	28.47	5.74	.58	10-50	11-41	-.33	.03
Interpersonal Jealousy	300	24.93	7.11	.89	11-55	9-41	-.48	-.11
Schadenfreude	300	80.49	20.75	.83	28-140	28-118	-1.08	.52

Table 1 show that all scales are reliable and normally distributed as indicated by alpha coefficients and normality analyses.

**Table 2**

*Pearson correlation among variables*

Variables	1	2	3
Social comparison	-	.15*	.15**
Interpersonal jealousy		-	.64**
Schadenfreude			-

\* $p < .05$ . \*\* $p < .01$ . \*\*\* $p < .001$ .

Table 2 shows that social comparison with interpersonal jealousy ( $r = .15$ ,  $p < .001$ ) and schadenfreude ( $r = .15$ ,  $p < .001$ ). Social comparison has correlation with schadenfreude ( $r = .64$ ,  $p < .001$ ).

**Table 3**

*Mean, standard deviation and t-values for males and females on study variables*

Variables	Boys (n=150)		Girls (n=150)		t(298)	P	LL	UL	Cohen's d
	M	SD	M	SD					
Social comparison	30.00	4.59	26.94	6.36	4.78	.000***	1.80	4.32	.55
Schadenfreude	86.49	11.39	74.49	25.72	5.23	.000***	7.49	16.53	.60
Interpersonal jealousy	26.11	4.90	23.77	8.65	2.89	.004**	.74	3.94	.33

Table 3 shows that boys exhibited higher level of social comparison, schadenfreude and jealousy as compared to girls.

**Table 4**

*Moderation of Interpersonal Jealousy Between Social Comparison and Schadenfreude among University Students (N=300)*

Predictors	Outcome: Schadenfreude		
	B	95% CI	
		LL	UL
(constant)	.03***	24.09	24.15
Social comparison	1.28**	.40	2.16
Interpersonal jealousy	3.07***	2.09	4.05
Social comparison x Interpersonal jealousy	.05*	.08	.01
R <sup>2</sup>	.42		
F	105.55***		
ΔR <sup>2</sup>		.04	
ΔF		6.43*	

\* $p < 0.05$ . \*\*\* $p < 0.01$ . \*\*\*\* $p < 0.001$ .

Table 4 shows moderating role of interpersonal jealousy between social comparison and schadenfreude among university students. Finding confirmed interpersonal jealousy moderated between social comparison and schadenfreude relationship among sample of university students. The value of  $R^2$ .42 indicated that 42% variance in the outcome variable is explained by the predictors with  $F(3, 296) = 105.55, p < 0.001$ . The value of  $\Delta R^2$  is .04 which explained variance of 4% by additional effect in schadenfreude with  $\Delta F(1, 296) = 6.43, p < 0.05$  which. The finding indicated that social comparison tendencies ( $B = 1.28, p < 0.01$ ), interpersonal jealousy ( $B = 3.07, p < 0.001$ ) and social comparison x interpersonal jealousy ( $B = .05, p < 0.05$ ) has a significant effect on schadenfreude.

**Figure 1**

*Moderation of Interpersonal Jealousy between Social comparison and Schadenfreude*

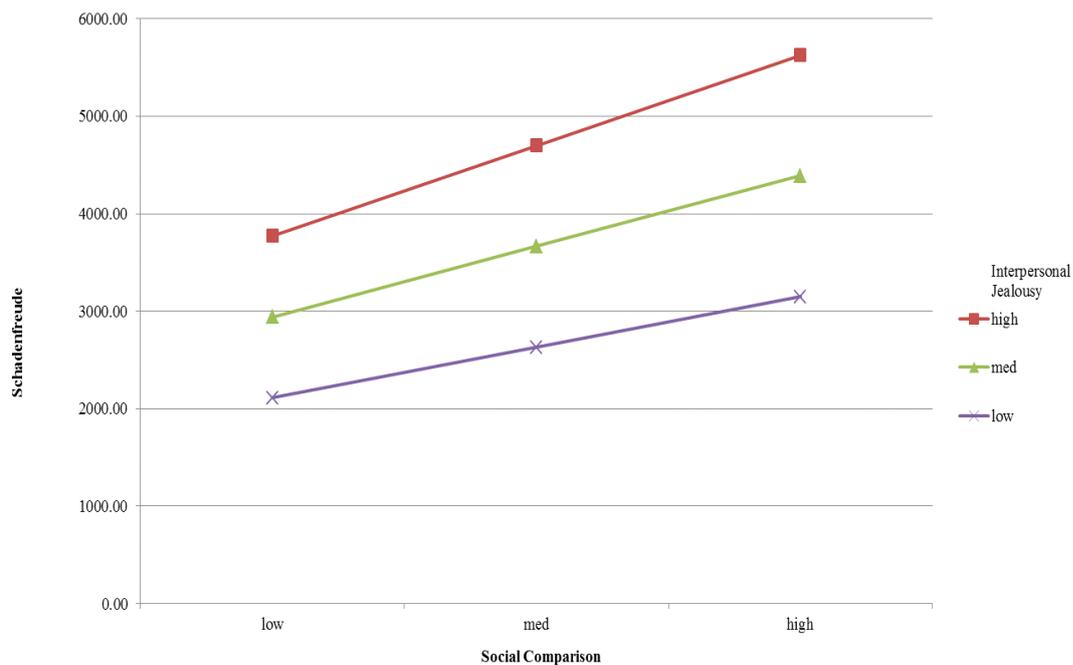


Figure 1 shows the moderating effect of Interpersonal jealousy between social comparison and Schadenfreude among adolescence. Mod graph shows that for individuals with high level of Interpersonal jealousy, there is positive relationship between social comparison and schadenfreude which indicates that increase in level of social comparison increases the symptoms of Schadenfreude among adolescence of university students. Contrary, if there is medium or low level of interpersonal jealousy, there is slight decrease in the inverse relationship between social comparison and Schadenfreude among university students.

### Discussion

The first hypothesis, that social comparison is likely to predict schadenfreude among university students, was found to be valid in this study. The setting of a terrible event, according to Van et al. (2005), is a powerful predictor of schadenfreude feelings. Envy, hate, hate, and hatred aimed at the performance will heighten schadenfreude double (Hareli & Weiner, 2002). Durkin and Paxton observed that evaluative comparisons to idealised female images have a considerable negative influence on adolescent girls. Comparisons between individuals who are better off or worse off may have a big influence on how individuals think and feel about themselves (Epstude & Mussweiler, 2009). Helpless people experience schadenfreude as a result of malignant envy (Epstude & Mussweiler, 2009). It is skilled when a competitor has a tragedy that lowers his or her mate's worth. This is due to the fact that when a rival loses value, the value of one's partner increases. It's seen as beneficial since it raises the chances of finding a companion. Choices are safe when contrasted to the option to speed. Schadenfreude has an influence while looking for a companion (Colyn & Gordon, 2013).

According to prior study, people find pleasure in other people's misfortunes when these misfortunes give them with social comparisons that increase their emotions of self-worth or eliminate the foundation for uneasy jealousy sentiments (Wilco et al., 2015). We hypothesise that an unjustified high power position elicits more vicious jealousy than benign jealousy, and that this effect is independent of other schadenfreude antecedents such as accomplishment deservingness or inferiority. As a result, there is an increase in schadenfreude (Van de Ven et al., 2014).

The third hypothesis in this study is that interpersonal jealousy explains the link between social comparison and schadenfreude. According to previous research, interpersonal jealousy would be plausible for the link between social assessment and schadenfreude, which is supported in this study. When an invader threatens to break a valued connection, jealousy can be activated, resulting in a decrease in the relational rewards a person gets. a couple Furthermore, jealousy may arise as a result of the one feeling envy's stated unfavorable social calculation and projected rejection. A mixture of feelings, including wrath, fear, worry, and sadness, characterises the emotional journey of jealousy (Bingle & Buunk, 1985; Harris & Darby, 2010). The findings suggest that self-evaluation and jealousy both play a part in inspiring schadenfreude; people experience schadenfreude when other people's tragedies provide them with social comparisons that boost their perceptions of self-worth or eliminate the grounds for painful sentiments of envy. According to Van et al. (2005), the legacy of an awfulcontest is a significant predictor of schadenfreude feelings. Envy, hate, hate, and hatred in close proximity to the performer will heighten schadenfreude (Hareli, & Weiner, 2002). After all, envy has a negative effect on one's subjective well-being. Envy is provoked most of the time by social comparison, which is the drive to evaluate one's own circumstances, qualities, and talents in contrast to those of others (Festinger, 1954). According to Vecchio (2005), workplace rivalry raises the likelihood of feeling envy as a result of competitive success, which stimulates increased social comparison. Bad emotions, such as pain, must be present for unfavourable social comparisons to lead to negative envy consequences

(Thompson et al., 2015b). Edward Mark Sanders' previous research envy and jealousy in ancient Athens Following this exploration of envy and jealousy, I connect these feelings to a variety of others that exist alongside them, such as emulation, greed and materialism, spite, and Schadenfreud. Another important aspect of jealousy is that it arises from a feeling of rejection, whether it is seen or real. The form of denial that causes jealousy differs from other types of rejection in that it involves an individual's interpersonal loss or lessened relationship with a companion, as well as another's interpersonal gain (Parrott, 1991; Mathes, Adams, & Davies, 1985).

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