

Plans for After High School for Students with Learning Disabilities: An Examination of Emotions and Basic Psychological Needs



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Plans for After High School

Deciding on plans is a complex task, filled with many emotions.



We focused on the experiences of students with LD.

Basic Psychological Needs

Three needs are essential for an individual's well-being and can either be **supported** or **frustrated** by the environment (Ryan & Deci, 2017).

1

Autonomy

feeling in control

2

Competence

feeling capable

3

Relatedness

feeling connected to others

Purpose of The Study:

Examining the experiences of students with LD, specifically, the emotions they were feeling, and how they were supported in making decisions.

Methods – Quantitative

Surveys completed by 23 grade-12 students.

Participants were asked to:

- Identify emotions they were feeling (PANAS)
- The frustration and satisfaction of their BPN of **autonomy**, **competence**, and **relatedness**.

Methods – Quantitative

Participants were asked:

- How did you **decide on** your plans for life after high school?
- How have you **felt** about this **transition**?

Interviews completed by seven grade-12 students.

Descriptives for Quantitative Data

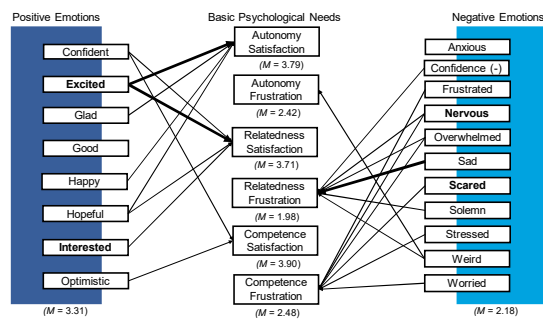
	N items	α	Mean	SD	Skewness	Kurtosis	t-test	Cohen's D
1. Autonomy Satisfaction	4	.90	3.79	0.93	-0.78	0.93	4.07*	0.85
2. Autonomy Frustration	4	.79	2.42	0.96	0.22	0.03	-2.89	-0.60
3. Relatedness Satisfaction	4	.80	3.71	0.75	0.41	-0.85	4.56*	0.95
4. Relatedness Frustration	4	.70	1.98	0.79	0.63	-0.56	-6.23*	-1.30
5. Competence Satisfaction	4	.93	3.90	0.87	-0.47	-0.93	5.01*	1.04
6. Competence Frustration	4	.88	2.48	0.99	0.32	-0.85	-2.51	-0.52
7. Positive Emotions	10	.93	3.31	0.90	-0.40	-0.89	1.64	0.34
8. Negative Emotions	10	.86	2.18	0.71	0.18	-1.21	-5.57*	-1.16

Note. * $p < .001$. For the Student t-test, the alternative hypothesis specifies that the mean is different from 3.

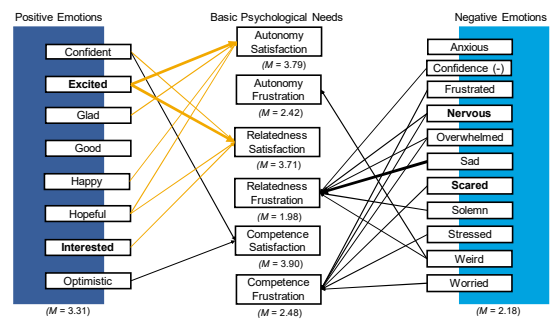
Joint Display of Findings Re: BPNs

	Autonomy Satisfaction $M = 3.79$	Autonomy Frustration $M = 2.42$	Relatedness Satisfaction $M = 3.71$	Relatedness Frustration $M = 1.98$	Competence Satisfaction $M = 3.90$	Competence Frustration $M = 2.48$
Alexander	X		X	X	X	X
Benjamin	X	X	X		X	X
Claire	X		X		X	
Deacon	X		X		X	
Everett	X		X		X	X
Fletcher	X		X			X
Gavin	X		X	X	X	
Coverage	100%	14%	100%	29%	86%	57%

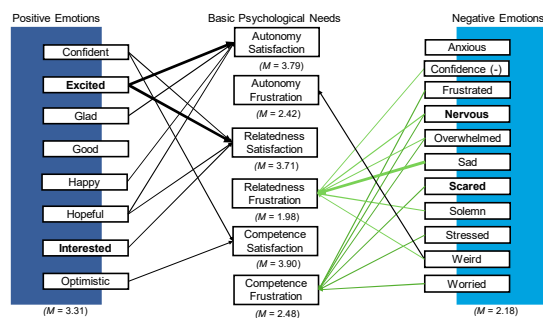
Joint Display of Findings Re: Emotions



Joint Display of Findings Re: Emotions



Joint Display of Findings Re: Emotions



In Summary

Based on survey data:

- Students identified **high satisfaction** of their BPNs during the decision-making process and reported low agreement with **negative emotion** items.

However, the deductive analysis from the transcripts:

- Students identified more **negative** than **positive** emotions.

Taken together, students:

- identified more **positive emotions** when their BPNs of **autonomy** and **relatedness** were satisfied.
- identified more **negative emotions** when their BPNs of **relatedness** and **competence** were frustrated.

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Thank you!



Small text: Invest in Canada's future. Invest in education. Invest in research.

