

Loper, A.B. (2003). The relationship of maladaptive beliefs to personality and behavioural adjustment among incarcerated women. *Journal of Cognitive Psychotherapy*, 17, 253-266.

This study examined the relationship between schema domains (Young, 1999) and adjustment in a sample of female prison inmates (N = 116). Participants completed the Early Maladaptive Schema Questionnaire—Revised, the SCID-II Screen, the Brief Symptom Inventory, and the Prison Violence Inventory. Institutional records provided information concerning documented behavioural infractions. The Impaired Limits domain score, representing entitlement and poor self-control themes, was associated with screening scores for paranoid, antisocial, borderline, histrionic, and narcissistic personality disorders, as well as hostility symptoms, institutional misconduct, and self-reported violence perpetration and victimization. The Disconnection/ Rejection domain score was associated with a wide array of self-reported mental illness symptoms. A significant relationship between the Impaired Autonomy domain scale and dependent personality disorder (SCID-II Screen) was also observed. Results indicate that domains of belief are plausibly related to specific dysfunction in personality and behavioural adjustment. Results also suggest the potential benefit of using cognitive therapy with incarcerated women.