

ABSTRACT

This thesis focuses on the psychosocial functioning of couples including a woman diagnosed with borderline personality disorder. To describe their functioning, a study following 16 clinical couples was performed and their characteristics were compared with a control sample of 21 couples. Three areas were monitored: personality styles of partners of women with BPD, attachment dimensions and partner satisfaction and its interrelationships with the mentioned variables. Data were obtained using a test battery consisting of the following questionnaires: PSSI, ECR-R-16 and DAS (the subscale for partner satisfaction). The results of the study showed that the borderline personality style in women is associated with similar and complementary personality traits in their partners, while these features of the partner are significantly higher in comparison with the control sample. The research also confirmed the predominance of the insecure attachment in women with borderline personality disorder and their partners. Borderline personality disorder is also connected with lower partner satisfaction as compared with the control sample, and the degree of the satisfaction is negatively linked with borderline personality style and styles that are closely associated. Partner satisfaction also shows negative relationships with the insecure type of attachment.

KEYWORDS

Borderline personality disorder, romantic relationships, personality styles, PSSI, attachment, partner satisfaction

