

## **Parenting, Self-Control, and Delinquency: Examining the Applicability of Gottfredson and Hirschi's General Theory of Crime to South Korean Youth.**

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### **Parenting, Self-Control, and Delinquency: Examining the Applicability of Gottfredson and Hirschi's General Theory of Crime to South Korean Youth.**

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#### **Abstract**

Limited studies have examined whether self-control fully mediates the effect of parenting on deviant behavior beyond Western cultures. Using a sample of 882 South Korean middle and high schools students, this article examines the applicability of Gottfredson and Hirschi's argument about the role of parenting in self-control theory in the context of Asian culture. Results of structural equation modeling (SEM) suggest the relationships among parenting, self-control, and delinquency hold in South Korean culture: Parenting has only an indirect effect through self-control on delinquency. The findings of multigroup SEM, however, indicate that gender differences exist in the relationships among parenting, self-control, and delinquency. This study provides support for cultural invariance of self-control theory but suggests that more studies examining gender differences and interaction between gender and race in the theory are required.

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