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Perceived Social Support and Feelings of Entrapment Among Liabes with on Probation

Denetimli Serbestlik Kapsamındaki Yükümlülerde Algılanan Sosyal Destek ve Sıkışmışlık Duyguları

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ÖZ

Bu çalışma denetimli serbestlik sistemine dahil olan yükümlü bireylerde sosyal destek ile sıkışmışlık hissetme duyguları arasındaki ilişkiyi değerlendirmeyi amaçlamaktadır. Tanımlayıcı desende yapılan çalışmanın örneklemini 169 erkek yetişkin birey oluşturdu. Araştırmanın verileri Sosyodemografik Bilgi Formu, Çok Boyutlu Algılanan Sosyal Destek Ölçeği (MSPSS) ve Sıkışmışlık Hissetme Ölçeği (ES) kullanılarak toplandı. Araştırmaya katılanların yaşları 32.04±7.9, %32.0'ı ilkökul mezunu, %78.7'si evli idi. Yükümlü bireylerin yaklaşık yarısı birden fazla suç nedeniyle denetimli serbestlik sistemine dahil olduğunu belirtti. Çalışma, yükümlüler tarafından bildirilen MSPSS ve ES faktörleri arasında istatistiksel olarak anlamlı negatif bir zayıf ilişki ($p<0.05$) ortaya koydu. Basit lineer regresyon analizi ile katılımcıların sosyodemografik özellikleri ve MSPSS puanları arasında anlamlı bir ilişki ($R=.425$, $R^2=.180$, $p<0.001$) saptandı. Yükümlülerin sosyodemografik özelliklerinin sıkışmış hissetme duygularını etkilemediği bulundu. Sonuç olarak, mevcut çalışmada yükümlü bireylerin algılanan sosyal destek düzeyleri yüksekti ve sıkışmışlık duygusunu çok az yaşadıkları saptandı. Ayrıca algılanan sosyal destek ile sıkışmış hissetme duyguları arasında önemli bir negatif ilişki görüldü.

Anahtar kelimeler: Denetimli Serbestlik, Sosyal Destek, Sıkışmışlık Hissetme Duygusu.

ABSTRACT

This study aims to evaluate the relationship between social support and feelings of entrapment in responsible individuals who are included in the probation system. The sample of the study, which was conducted in a descriptive design, consisted of 169 male adult individuals. The data of the study were collected using the Sociodemographic Information Form, the Multidimensional Scale of Perceived Social Support (MSPSS), and the Entrapment Scale (ES). The ages of the participants were 32.04±7.9 years, 32.0% were primary school graduates, and 78.7% were married. About half of the liable individuals stated that they are included in the probation system due to more than one crime. The study revealed a statistically significant negative weak correlation ($p<0.05$) between the MSPSS and ES factors reported by obliged parties. A significant correlation ($R=.425$, $R^2=.180$, $p<0.001$) was found between the sociodemographic characteristics and MSPSS scores of the participants by simple linear regression analysis. It was found that the sociodemographic characteristics of the incumbents did not affect their feelings of entrapment. As a result, in the present study, it was found that the individuals in charge had high levels of perceived social support and experienced very little feelings of entrapment. There was also a significant negative relationship between perceived social support and feelings of entrapment.

Keywords: Feelings of Entrapment, Probation, Social Support.

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INTRODUCTION

The economic crisis, decrease in employment rates, and increase in crime rates are contributing to the growing social problems in our country and around the world (Britto et al., 2022; TÜİK, 2019). Considering the cost of crime, the effect of corrective and preventive actions is remarkable (Adalet Bakanlığı, 2017; Adli İstatistikler, 2020). In this context, the probation system is one of the most important institutions where social work activities can be carried out, especially for individuals who have not made a habit of committing crimes or have not entered the vortex of repeated crimes (Denetimli Serbestlik Daire Başkanlığı, 2022). The practice of probation reveals an important public health need in the development of services that will reduce the rates of re-offending, as it is based on the punishment of individuals without being cut off from social life (Spohr et al., 2016). The number of people under probation is increasing daily, particularly due to the ongoing pandemic both in our country and worldwide (Genç, 2021). According to the data of the Ministry of Justice for the year 2022; It was stated that a total of 437,636 files were followed by the probation department (Adalet Bakanlığı, 2017).

This system intertwines social life, participation in society, and social control mechanisms. It is important for public health because it enables individuals to maintain normalcy in their lives through social connections (Apaydin & Kaplan, 2019; Chandran et al., 2020). Individuals involved in the criminal justice system often face stigma, which can have a significant impact on their mental health (Uzunbacak, 2021). The primary adverse consequences of stigma encompass heightened social seclusion and feelings of solitude, both of which are closely linked with anxiety, depression, self-harm behaviors, and attempts at suicide (Schmidt et al., 2015; Besemer et al., 2017).

According to the integrated motivational-volitional model, feeling stuck is a crucial component of the psychological mechanisms underlying suicidal ideation (O'Connor & Portzky, 2018). Entrapment is defined as an individual's inability to control, separate, or accept their perception of the situation. It is also characterized by feeling overwhelmed with stress and a desire to escape, but there are high barriers to achieving that escape (Schmid et al., 2020). There are various causes for it, including depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, and anxiety can eventually lead to a suicidal crisis (Hill et al., 2018). In the literature, the feeling of entrapment is discussed in internal and external dimensions (Gilbert & Allan, 1998). The feeling of internal entrapment includes the feeling that the individual's existing emotions are inadequate to cope in stressful times or that he/she feels guilty. The feeling of external entrapment is that the individual has problems in human relations, school or business life, and does not have help and support from someone else (Kaba, 2019). The feeling of entrapment occurs when the individual does not accept himself and feels worthless. Self-acceptance is crucial for an individual's mental health. A higher level of self-acceptance can lower the likelihood of depression and increase happiness (Wikström, 2020). According to previous research, social support functions as a motivational moderator that mitigates the development of suicidal ideation and intentions (O'Connor & Portzky, 2018). Social support from conformist sources, such as parents,

helps individuals by enhancing their sense of belonging, providing role models, and supplying them with the necessary skills and resources to ward off criminal factors. Moreover, it contributes to the accumulation of capital by legitimate means (Wikström, 2020). In this context, social support networks create a nutritious environment that provides acceptance, sense of belonging and self-value (Walker et al., 2020). Looking at the relevant literature; It is stated that mental health is worse in individuals with insufficient social support; It has been emphasized that individuals with high social support have a high self-perception and lead a healthier life (Fazel & Yu, 2011; Huang et al., 2020; Uysal et al., 2015; Werner-Seidler et al., 2017). Another study suggests that suicide attempts may occur when individuals feel trapped and desperate to escape their current situation (Macintyre et al., 2021).

Most studies about entrapment, mostly focused on studies related to COVID-19 and addressed suicides, depression and anxiety, self-harm during COVID-19 (O'Connor & Portzky, 2018; Hawton et al., 2021; Yohannes, 2020). Nevertheless, according to Tesimann and Brailovkaia, suicidal ideation is not an inevitable outcome of feeling trapped (Teismann & Brailovskaia, 2020). Most of the individuals who have been sentenced for any criminal behavior are labeled as "criminal/convicted", with the disadvantages that existed before their conviction, and this label can sometimes continue for life and become dynamic (Timurturkan et al., 2017). Other intertwined problems such as economic losses, stigma, and alienation from family and social environment relations in the process that emerge with criminal behavior weaken the ties of these individuals with the society, reducing their expectations for the future and their quality of life. In this case, both individual and social well-being suffer (Eryalçın et al., 2022). Contrary to the idea that loneliness, social isolation and protection of psychological health in the obliged parties who are included in the probation system, and the need to protect the society in general from individuals who have committed crimes, it should be realized that almost everyone involved in crime will eventually become a part of the social order (Ertan & Demez, 2018). In particular, health professionals working in close cooperation with the society (such as public health nurses, and social workers) play an active role in the protection, rehabilitation, and treatment of the mental health of the society (Ertan and Demez, 2018). In this period the process of increasing the participation of the individual in the probation system is critical. Health professionals must evaluate the individual as a whole within his/her environment when providing service. This assessment involves a planned change process in which multiple risks can be addressed simultaneously at micro, medium, and macro levels. Therefore, the research was carried out to reveal the perceived social support and feeling of being stuck in probation process through some independent variables (sociodemographic and probation process), which became evident in terms of facilitating the transition to re-socialization and reintegration with society. It is thought that the feeling of social exclusion and stuckness, which is handled with a public health perspective, will contribute to social integration and the literature.

The study sought answers to the following questions:

- (1) Is there a relationship between the sociodemographic characteristics of the liable individuals and the probation process and the perceived social support?
- (2) Is there a relationship between the sociodemographic characteristics of the liable individuals and the probation process and the feelings of entrapment?
- (3) Is there a relationship between the perceived social support of obligated individuals and the feelings of entrapment?

METHODS

Simple Study and Design

The present study was designed descriptively to evaluate the relationship between social support and entrapment among liable individuals on probation. The population of the study consisted of adult individuals between the ages of 18-65 included in the criminal justice system in the eastern region of Türkiye within the scope of "Execution of the Punishment by Applying Probation Measure" (N=987). In determining the sample size, the confidence level was $\alpha = .05$, 95%, and a total of 211 individuals (Yazıcıoğlu & Erdoğan, 2004). Accordingly, the research questionnaire was filled in face-to-face with 211 adult volunteers. However, in the survey form collected, it was decided to exclude 42 forms (missing data) from the analysis in the pre-analysis examinations, and the analyses were completed with 169 individuals. The study was collected face-to-face with adult individuals who applied Probation Measures in a city center between July and November 2022. Criteria for inclusion in the study: (i) Individuals who volunteered to participate in the study, (ii) those between the ages of 18-65, (iii) not having any visual or hearing impairment that prevented the study, (iv) who did not receive a psychiatric. Moreover, (i) Individuals who were not willing to participate in the study, (ii) who were under the age of 18 and over the age of 65, (iii) who were psychiatrically diagnosed, (iv) who had visual, or hearing impairment were not included in the study.

Data Collection Tools

We used the Sociodemographic Information Form for adults, Multidimensional Scale of Perceived Social Support (MSPSS), and Entrapment Scale (ES) in our study. These instruments were developed by the researchers based on recent literature (Wikström, 2020; Kaba, 2019; Uzunbacak, 2021; Ertan and Demez, 2018).

Multidimensional Scale of Perceived Social Support (MSPSS)

In their research, Eker et al. undertook the task of establishing the Turkish validity and reliability of the social support scale originally devised by Zimet et al. (Eker et al., 2001). Comprising 12 items that pertain to various sources of social support, the scale is categorized into three subsets: family, friends, and significant others. The scale's potential score range spans from 12 to 84, with higher scores indicating a greater perception of social support. The overall reliability coefficient, as

evaluated using Cronbach's alpha, stands at 0.85 for the complete scale. In Eker et al.'s (2001) investigation, the Cronbach's alpha reliability coefficient for the complete scale was calculated as 0.77.

Entrapment Scale (ES)

The scale developed by Gilbert and Allan (1998) consists of sixteen items and two sub-dimensions. The sub-dimensions, which are called internal and external, consist of judgments that include the factors that prevent the positive situations of the individual and the factors that affect emotions and thoughts. The scale's score ranges from 0 to 64. The level of entrapment increases in tandem with the scale's score. The reliability coefficient by Cronbach's alpha is 0.88. Throughout the study, the reliability coefficient by Cronbach's alpha of the scale was 0.82 for all the participants (Uysal et al., 2015)(Gilbert & Allan, 1998).

Statistical Analysis

During data analysis, the SPSS 22.0 package program was used to determine sociodemographic characteristics using frequency distribution, number, and arithmetic mean values. The research data were examined with the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test and Pearson correlation analysis and regression analysis were applied to the normally distributed data. The predetermined level of significance was established as $p < 0.05$.

RESULTS

In this section, the sociodemographic characteristics of the adult individuals participating in the study, their perceived social support levels, and the levels of entrapment were examined.

According to Table 1, the average age was of the participants 32.04 ± 7.9 years, 32.0% were primary school graduates, 67.5% were married, and 65.7% had good economic status. 79.3% of the participants stated that they did not experience violence in their families.

Table 1: Distribution of sociodemographic characteristics of participants

Sociodemographic characteristics		<i>n</i>	%
Educational Status	Literate	16	9.5
	Primary School	54	32.0
	Secondary School	52	30.8
	High school and higher	47	27.7
Marital status	Married	114	67.5
	Single	55	32.5
Income status	Good	111	65.7
	Moderate	42	24.9
	Bad	16	9.4

Table 1: Distribution of sociodemographic characteristics of participants (continue)

Sociodemographic characteristics		n	%
Long-lived place	Village/town	58	34.3
	District	88	52.1
	Province	23	13.6
Long-lived person	Mother-father-sibling	129	76.3
	Extended family	32	18.9
	Institution/peer/ different places	8	4.8
Family Type	Nuclear family	63	37.3
	Extended family	98	57.9
	Parents are separated	8	4.8
Marital status of parents	Married	133	78.7
	Not alive	28	16.6
	Separated	8	4.7
Domestic violence	Yes	35	22.7
	No	134	79.3
Types of domestic violence	Physical violence	14	8.3
	Emotional violence	13	7.7
	Verbal violence	8	4.7
	No	134	79.3
Age	Mean		SD
		32.04	7.9
TOTAL		169	100.0

When the variables related to the probation system of the participants in Table 2 are examined; 36.6% of them were involved in more than one crime (such as theft, murder, injury, or drugs) and were included in the system. 76.9% of the participants stated that they felt the support of their families in this process, 82.8% stated that they did not attempt any suicide, 93.2% stated that they did not psychological treatment, and 52.7% stated that they felt good mentally (Table 2).

Table 2: Distribution of variables of the probation system

Variables		n	%
Income status*	Yes	118	69.8
	No	51	30.2
Cause of crime	Theft	13	7.7
	Drugs	76	45
	Injury	18	10.7
	Other**	62	36.6
Feeling family support	Yes	130	76.9
	No	39	23.1
Suicide attempt	Yes	29	17.2
	No	140	82.8
Psychological treatment*	Yes	11	6.5
	No	158	93.2
	Bad	11	6.6
	Moderate	30	17.8
Mental health	Good	89	52.7
	Very good	39	23.1
TOTAL		169	100.0

*being included in the probation system, **multiple options are checked (theft, murder, injury, drugs)

According to Table 3, the total score averages of the participants from the MSPSS were 47.43 ± 18.97 , and the total score averages from MSPSS sub-dimensions were 19.57 ± 7.54 , 14.53 ± 7.69 , and 13.32 ± 7.89 , respectively. The total mean scores of the participants from the ES were 38.22 ± 11.76 , and the total mean scores from ES sub-dimensions were 23.96 ± 6.93 and 14.26 ± 6.39 , respectively (Table 3).

Table 3: MSPSS and ES and total score averages of the sub-dimensions

Scales	Min.	Max.	Mean	SD
MSPSS TOTAL	12	84	47.43	18.97
Family	4	28	19.57	7.54
Friend	4	28	14.53	7.69
Significant other	4	28	13.32	7.89
ES TOTAL	18	84	38.22	11.76
External Dimension	12	45	23.96	6.93
Internal Dimension	6	50	14.26	6.39

ES: Entrapment Scale; MSPSS: Multidimensional Scale of Perceived Social Support, SD: Standart deviation

According to Table 4, when the relationship between the MSPSS and ES of participants of the participants was examined, a statistically significant negative relationship was found between MSPSS and ES ($r = -0.276^{**}$, $p = 0.022$). In other words, as the level of multidimensional perceived social support increased, the feeling of being stuck decreased. A statistically significant and negative weak relationship was determined between the total score of the MSPSS scale and the total score of the ES scale and the External subscale of the ES scale. There was a statistically significant and weak negative correlation between the Significant Other subscale of the MSPSS scale and the total score of the ES scale and its subscales of External Dimension and Internal Dimension (respectively). In addition, there was a negative, statistically significant and weak relationship between the MSPSS scale Friends sub-performance and the ES scale total score and Internal Dimension sub-performance.

Table 4: Relationship Between MSPSS and ES

Sub-dimensions		Significant			
		Family	Friend	Other	MSPSS
External Dimension	r	-0.067	-0.130	-0.299**	-0.262*
	p	0.385	0.092	0.010	0.035
Internal Dimension	r	-0.018	-0.274*	-0.285*	-0.147
	p	0.813	0.041	0.016	0.056
ES	r	-0.050	-0.261*	-0.318**	-0.276**
	p	0.522	0.037	0.004	0.022

*: $p < 0.05$; **: $p < 0.01$, r: Pearson correlation analysis; ES Entrapment Scale; MSPSS: Multidimensional Scale of Perceived Social Support

A significant association ($R = 0.425$, $R^2 = 0.180$, $p < 0.001$) was discovered between the sociodemographic features of participants and MSPSS using simple linear regression analysis. There was no significant relationship between the sociodemographic factors of the participants and

their ES levels ($R=.234$, $R^2=.055$, $p>0.001$). It was discovered that participants in the study with the following sociodemographic characteristics (age, education, marital status, childhood place, cause of crime, financial situation, mental health, domestic violence, family acceptance) were cumulatively effective on social support by 18.0% (Table 5).

Table 5: Regression analysis of the sociodemographic characteristics of the participants and MSPSS and ES

	MSPSS					ES				
	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta			B	Std. Error	Beta		
(Constant)	21.490	17.136		1.254	0.212	32.857	11.405		2.881	0.005
Age	-0.108	0.185	-0.045	-0.583	0.561	0.028	0.123	0.019	0.224	0.823
Education levels	3.222	1.525	0.164	2.113	0.036	-0.340	1.015	-0.028	-0.335	0.738
Marital status	-0.449	2.756	-0.012	-0.163	0.871	1.979	1.834	0.086	1.079	0.282
Long-lived place	-3.500	3.555	-0.078	-0.985	0.326	-1.069	0.869	-0.100	-1.230	0.220
Cause of crime	-1.406	1.221	-0.089	-1.151	0.251	-0.841	0.813	-0.086	-1.035	0.302
Income status	-3.158	1.305	-0.183	-2.419	0.017	1.532	1.073	0.117	1.428	0.155
Mental health	1.081	1.618	0.051	0.668	0.505	-1.295	1.077	-0.099	-1.202	0.231
Domestic violence	4.532	4.192	0.085	1.081	0.281	3.417	2.790	0.103	1.224	0.223
Feeling family supports	5.600	1.612	0.264	3.474	0.001	0.563	2.366	0.020	0.238	0.812
	R=0.425 ^a	R Square= 0.180	F= 3.476	Sig= 0.000		R= 0.234 ^a	R Square=0 .055	F=0.913	Sig = 0.523	

B: unstandardized coefficients; Std Error: standard error; Beta: standardized coefficients; R2: determination coefficient; F: Anova; p<0.05.

DISCUSSION

The probation system's population is increasing globally and in our country. However, the high level of perceived social support in this group may not adequately balance positive social relationships and delinquency (Herberman & Bonczar, 2014; Yanar & Buz 2020). Critical factors such as family, job opportunities, education, and a positive social environment are necessary to promote healthy development. Perceptions of social support can have a positive impact on the process of avoiding crime by enabling individuals to identify and strengthen their support systems, and establish stronger social bonds. Additionally, feelings of being stuck can highlight challenges in the rehabilitation process and emphasize the need for support to overcome these challenges. Addressing social support and feelings of being stuck can play a crucial role in reintegrating this population into society and guiding health professionals.

In the study, the level of feelings of entrapment of liable individuals was low. Studies have shown that stigma causes individuals to lose their social identity, feel battered and worthless, and have difficulty rejoining society. On the other hand, it is emphasized that the feeling of being stuck causes various psychological problems such as chronic stress and depression (van den Berg et al., 2016). In the literature, it is shown that stigma causes individuals to lose their social identity, feel battered and worthless, and have difficulty rejoining society (Besemer et al., 2017; Yaman & Güngör, 2013). Furthermore, it has been pointed out that the stress experienced by individuals who have been victims of crime due to the stigma associated with it can be even more demanding compared to the stress that is considered normal and differs from being in prison (Besemer et al., 2017). In another study, it was stated that the feeling of being stuck causes various psychological problems such as chronic stress and depression (van den Berg et al., 2016). In their cross-sectional study, Thomas et al. examined the mental health of former prisoners after their release from prison (n = 1216). The study found that approximately 30% of former prisoners experience moderate psychological distress and have low communication with mental health services in the community (Thomas et al., 2016). Numerous studies have highlighted the correlation between social status acquired through labeling and an increase in criminal behavior (Krohn et al., 2014; Jolliffe et al., 2015; Savaş and Eryalçın, 2020; Gün & Önder Erol, 2023). Additionally, it has been observed that individuals who feel marginalized from society may develop an inflated sense of pride, leading to the continuation of their criminal acts. Furthermore, a study conducted revealed that individuals who have been involved in the criminal justice system exhibit an uptick in hostility toward law enforcement personnel following the commission of a crime (Porsuk, 2022). The reason why the results of this finding differ according to the literature may be the socio-demographic characteristics of individuals.

The present determined that the social support levels perceived by the probationers liable were at a moderate level. In a study by Hochstatter et al. examining the presence of social support and substance use in women in reform schools (n=306), it was stated that the perceived social support

of women was moderate and the decrease in social support led to negative mental health consequences (Hochstatter et al., 2022). Dadi et al. examined the factors affecting the perceived social support in prisoners (n=649) and stated that the social support that these people should have was low compared to the expected level (Dadi et al., 2019). Çıvgın and Gün, in their study examining the mediating role of perceived social support in prisoners in the relationship between psychological resilience and depression (n=494), stated that the level of social support perceived by prisoners liable was high (Çıvgın & Gün, 2022). Aslan et al. found that the perceived social support from family, friends, and significant others had a negative association with depression levels among drug-using convicts (Aslan et al., 2019). Additionally, a study examining the role of family support on mental health in prison and after release found that family support did not affect mental health while in prison, but post-release family support increased the mental recovery rate of victims. This result means that family support is more valuable after prisoners are released rather than while they are in prison (Wallace et al., 2016). This result can emphasize the importance of conformist resources (such as family, and friends) in the mental health of individuals and can be a guide for healthcare professionals (Lee & Park, 2021). Studies have shown that emotional family support is strongly associated with prosocial relapse outcomes. For instance, individuals who maintain social connections outside of prison have lower crime rates than those who lose their social ties during incarceration (Bares & Mowen, 2020; Martinez & Abrams, 2013; Morash et al., 2015). Another study found that individuals who receive social support from their peers, including transportation, housing, and employment assistance, are less likely to re-offend (Mowen & Boman, 2019). This study's results suggest that formal and informal social support can aid individuals in navigating the reentry process after involvement in the criminal justice system.

A factor impacting the social support perceived by the probationers liable was sociodemographic properties. In our study, it was determined that some sociodemographic factors (education, domestic violence) have positive impacts while some sociodemographic factors (income status) have negative impacts. In the researches, it was emphasized that the level of education is an important variable and as the education level increases, the perceived social support levels of the convicts also increase (Dadi et al., 2019; Çıvgın & Gün, 2022). In the study conducted by Dong et al. on delinquent individuals, they stated that the perception of social support from conformist sources plays a critical role especially for labeling that may occur (Dong & Krohn, 2017). In similar studies, it was emphasized that perceived social support (family, friends, etc.) not only directly reduces crime, but also reduces other variables that affect crime (for example, criminogenic type or social control level) (Weisburd et al., 2015; Grattet, 2012). In another study, it was stated that positive and supportive relationships in different contexts, including family, peers, and society, help promote healthy development and prosocial behaviors among at-risk individuals (Vidal & Woolard, 2017). These results can guide health professionals to increase family support systems for Incumbents. As a matter of fact, in the literature, developmental crime prevention programs that include the family,

school, peer groups, and close social environment of the child and young person, and support the child/youth socially, cognitively, and emotionally, are of critical importance (Eryalçın et al., 2022).

The present study found a negative correlation between the perceived social support levels of obligated individuals and their feelings of entrapment. In the study of Birtel et al. with convicted individuals, it was stated that those with a high level of social support experienced a lower level of stigma. In the same study, it was emphasized that as social support levels increase, the self-esteem of convicts increases, and their depression and anxiety decrease (Birtel et al., 2017). The current study's findings add to past research that identified social support and resilient attitudes as modifiers for the relationship between entrapment and suicidal thoughts (Shelefet et al., 2016; Wetherall et al., 2019). Most research on criminal stigma has emphasized that individuals who are treated unfairly may experience reduced social support and self-efficacy over time, and increased levels of depression and anxiety. (Moore & Tangney, 2017; Camacho et al., 2020; Feingold, 2021). Additionally, in a meta-analysis study (n=62); It has been observed that different types of trauma (such as childhood trauma) trigger an increase in suicide incidents in this disadvantaged group and negatively affect mental health (Liu et al., 2021). These findings may highlight the function of social support as a protective buffer for mental health.

Finally, this study revealed that revealed that family support has a very important contribution to perceived social support in probation-obliged parties, they feel more stuck in the external environment, and as their social support levels increase, their level of trapping decreases. While our study results are like the literature, it is seen that the most effective results are due to the differences in socioeconomic and crime elements. This result may emphasize the importance of psychosocial support that should be provided considering the differences.

The research is limited to the collection of data from individuals under probation in a province. The collection of the data of the research with a questionnaire form based on self-report caused the structure to be limited to the individual perceptions of the participants.

CONCLUSION

As a result, a weak negative correlation was detected between the MSPSS and ES. In conclusion our study, it was determined that perception of social support and sociodemographic factors (education, income status, domestic violence) impact on MSPSS levels at a rate of 18.0%. On the other hand, the research findings indicate no significant variations in the levels of social exclusion and feeling of being stuck among the obligated parties concerning age, marital status, residential locality, domestic violence, and psychological health variables. Interestingly, although the feeling of being stuck did not deviate based on the educational level, it is evident that education plays a crucial role in determining the perceived social support levels of the obligated parties. Accordingly, individuals with higher levels of education perceive greater levels of social support. Furthermore, as education levels increase, the social support provided to the individuals also increases. Although

feelings of being stuck do not vary based on perceived income status, perceived levels of social support among the obliged parties are seen to increase.

In this context, inclusion in the probation system is not only a social public health problem but also a psychosocial problem. To ensure the integration of these individuals, who are most suitable for stigmatization in society, it is necessary to raise awareness and inform society. In this respect, the deep professional skill of the healthcare professionals has a very strong multifaceted and target-oriented effect, ranging from healthy individuals to healthy societies and ideal public order in complying of the individuals in the probation system with the conditions they are in with the principle of a holistic approach, in the care specific to their physiological and spiritual needs, in ensuring the sustainability of the attitudes and behaviors acquired by the individual within the scope of probation and thereby preventing the repetition of the crime. Accordingly, within the scope of community-based mental health services, it may be suggested to organize educational seminars to plan training, strengthen family communication, raise awareness of stigma perceptions in all aspects, and increase leisure activities. On the other hand, it is recommended to offer business and vocational courses, which serve as crucial factors of social integration, to these individuals. Furthermore, conducting macro studies to boost employment opportunities by establishing necessary protocols between the Ministries of Justice and Labor and Social Security is advised. Based on the aforementioned factors, it is recommended that social workers, psychologists, psychiatrists, and nurses collaborate during the treatment and rehabilitation process to provide services for individuals engaged in criminal activities. Therefore, it is advisable to conduct awareness studies at mezzo and macro levels to alleviate the adverse impacts of family and social structure on individuals.

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ETHICAL INFORMATION ON RESEARCH

To conduct the research, Sırnak University Ethics Committee Permission numbered 2022-E.35630 with the decision dated 20.04.2022 was obtained from a state university, and permission was obtained from the Ministry of Justice 2022-E-46985942-204.04-274/967640 with the decision dated 08.07.2022. During the research, the rules specified in the Declaration of Helsinki were followed. Verbal consent of the individuals who accepted the study were obtained.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST STATEMENT

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interests.

CONTRIBUTION OF RESEARCHERS

The authors contributed equally to the study.

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