

# A Comparative Study On the Emotional Intelligence of the Criminals (Intentional and Unintentional Crimes) In Central Prison of Kerman

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**Abstract:** *This study has been conducted to compare emotional intelligence of the criminals (of intentional and unintentional crimes) in the central prison of Kerman. The population of the study included 146 imprisoned criminals (of intentional and unintentional crimes) in central prison of Kerman who were selected randomly. The Siber yashring EQ test was used in this study. Based on the results obtained and the analysis of data, the hypothesis of higher levels of emotional intelligence for criminals of unintentional crimes than the criminals guilty of intentional crimes was confirmed. The Hypothesis of higher levels of empathy in criminals of unintentional crimes than the criminals guilty of intentional crimes was confirmed. The Hypothesis of higher levels of empathy in criminals of unintentional crimes than the criminals guilty of intentional charges was confirmed. the hypothesis stating that levels of consciousness in criminal of unintentional crimes is higher than that of criminals of intentional crimes, was confirmed. the hypothesis stating that levels of self-control in criminal of unintentional crimes is higher than that of criminals of intentional crimes, was confirmed. The hypothesis stating that levels of self-stimulation in criminal of unintentional crimes is higher than that of criminals of intentional crimes, was confirmed. The hypothesis stating that levels of social skills in criminal of unintentional crimes are higher than that of criminals of intentional crimes was confirmed.*

**Key words:** *emotional intelligence, Siber yashring EQ test, criminals, prison*

## INTRODUCTION

Wherever a group of people have come together, in order to meet their needs of safety, comfort, and any other required needs easier, they created norms and called everyone to follow.

However, these norms have been different according to the history, geography, nature, and tastes of human beings and the degree of observing these rules by different groups and individuals. According to the same norms violators of these rules have been considered and punished as criminals and followers have been rewarded. In the Aristotle's empirical psychology (one of the schools of psychology in Greece in the years 322 to 348 BC) sensation was placed at the top of the symptoms of mental illness, and psychiatric disease was considered as a result of distraction of emotional balance (Milanifar, 1994). Today, it is believed that due to the relationship between psycho-somatic disorders and excitements, it seems that emotions play an important role in abnormal behaviors or mental disorders, and incorrect emotional skills can threaten mental health of the people, on the other hand abnormalities in emotion, as a social phenomenon, can cause severe or small problems at some levels including interactive relationships between individuals and the environment in the form of emotional responses (Khodapanahi, 2003).

Studies have shown that crime occur as a result of various, genetic, psychological, socio-cultural factors and particular environmental conditions (Sototeh, MIRZAEI and Pazand, 2000). So far, many studies in each of these areas have been conducted in order to understand and specify the crime, for example, crimes, in the

lower classes of the society, and individuals with lower levels of education, are rampant (Sedig sarvestani, 2005). Psychologists, in this vein, have presented different theories or perspectives; however, there is no consensus on any perspectives in this regard.

Goleman has presented the result of studies that accordingly, any kind of disorder in emotional intelligence can destroy thinking and endanger social and professional position of the individuals. Part of studies in the field have considered the difference in emotional intelligence of two groups only under subcomponents of emotional intelligence (baron, 2000, Saklofesy, Austin, and Minsdki, 2003), and some others showed the difference in the total score of two groups (for example: Hakim Javadi and the Ezheei, 2005), however, it has been observed that people with low emotional intelligence less likely show empathy to others, and (Meyer et al., 1990 according to the label and Snell jr, 2004) and drink higher level of alcohol. Austin et al. (2005), Angle Berg and Sjoberg (2004) have proposed that successful social adjustment has relationship with more precise understanding of other people. In a study, researchers have reported that the higher scores in emotional intelligences tests among 200 high school students has been related to less smoking and alcohol drinking (Cob & Mayer, 2000). Since the probability of happen crimes is high in lower classes of the society and financial conditions of the family (monthly income of the family) is affected by the number of family members, people with higher level of education commit crimes less (Sadig Sarvestani, 2005). Also, due to the importance of emotional intelligence in people's lives, especially married life (Goleman, 2002) and the possibility crime for older single people and because of changes in emotional intelligence over age (in the study by Moraty and colleagues (2001), regarding age, sexual violators and the ordinary people were matched) the necessity to control such variables is considered in the research. According to what was said, the solution of the main issue of this study is whether emotional intelligence is different intentional and unintentional crimes?

#### **significance of the study:**

Since Gardner raised the multivariate view of talent, the role of social and interpersonal skills has been highlighted in gaining success, considering the role of feelings, emotions increased, which ultimately resulted in specifying a the kind of intelligence called emotional intelligence.

As stated in the statement of the problem, emotional intelligence includes skills and abilities that can raise the issue of effectiveness of this kind of intelligence in the quality of perpetration or its role as a cause and facilitator of the crime, however, no research that examines the comparative difference between emotional intelligence and committing intentional and unintentional crimes was observed.

However, we live in a world that different crimes are mixed and we observe daily development of such criminals, these are things that binds us make an attempt to identify the causes and incentives of the criminals and prevent them. The ability to process emotional information in situations provides set of information for the individuals to use them in optimal behavior in that situation. Although emotional intelligence is relatively a new perspective, it is now believed that if a person has a favorable emotional intelligence can confront better with life challenges, control emotions effectively and thus enjoy better mental health (AMT) (Siarochy et al., 2001).

In line with the evolution of the theoretical framework of emotional intelligence and because the investigation worthy of attention in the field of emotional intelligence and intentional and unintentional crimes have not separately been carried out and emotional intelligence is not recorded at birth and it is possible to be taught, developed and strengthened by learning, practicing and abilities that create emotional intelligence, investigation of this structure in criminals of intentional and unintentional offenses can reveal the importance of emotional intelligence for this group, consequently can create useful information to provide advances in the treatment programs. In this way, in case of recognition of the importance of this issue by the criminals, we can take measures to train component skills of emotional intelligence, both within the family and educational organizations and in rehabilitation centers and strengthen this Intelligence. In

addition, learning, emotion regulation strategies can be one of the approaches that health care professionals apply to provide optimal health of individuals. Therefore, this study aimed to eliminate the dangerous state from criminals, improving the social environment is an important issue in the field of social psychology, especially in the realm of crimes psychology.

### **Research objectives:**

#### *The main objective:*

A comparative study of emotional intelligence of the criminals (intentional and unintentional crimes) in the central prison of Kerman. In more details, objectives are pursued as follows:

- 1- study of the difference between sympathy for the perpetrators of intentional and unintentional crimes.
2. Study of the difference in self-control between criminal intentional of unintentional and intentional crimes.
3. Study of the difference in self-consciousness between the criminals of intentional and unintentional crimes.
4. The evaluation of different social skills in intentional and unintentional criminals.
5. Study of the difference in self-motivation between criminals of intentional and unintentional crimes.

### **Hypotheses:**

In this study:

#### *General hypothesis:*

There is a relationship between emotional intelligence and the type of crime in type of both unintentional and intentional crimes.

#### *Sub- hypotheses:*

1. those who have committed intentional crimes have lower emotional intelligence than those committed unintentional crimes.
2. The rate of Empathy in the criminals of unintentional crimes is higher than criminals of intentional crimes.
3. The self-control of the criminal offense of unintentional intentional crimes is higher than criminals.
- 4- the rate of consciousness of the criminal of unintentional crimes is higher than criminals of intentional crimes.
- 5- The perpetrators of unintentional crimes have higher level social skills than the criminals of intentional crimes.
6. The rate of self-stimulation in perpetrators of unintentional crimes is more than criminals of intentional crimes.

In the present study, in general, two methods have been used, documentary and field study. In documentary method, books, articles, masters' thesis have been used. And the research hypothesis has been presented according to sets of ideas and study of the indexes that eventually led to research questions and the next, field study domain, stage. In this study, the research method is observation.

In fact, in the first step, the individual feels that changes are taking place or new behaviors, perspectives or senses are happening. That is regarded as the potential phenomena (Uma Skavan oma, 2003). Due to the fact that, the objective of this study is a comparative study of the emotional intelligence of the criminals (intentional and Unintentional crimes) in the central prison of Kerman, therefore, this is a co relational and survey study. The population of the research and sample size (N):

The population of the study is people who registered in the study in June 2011 after final announcement of their sentence in the central prison of Kerman. And in 6 levels, unintentional crimes of murder and sexual-assault-related crimes, financial crimes, theft and drug -related crimes were studied. With Morgan sample table, the sample size (n = 146) were randomly selected among the population.

Data collection and analysis of the data: in the dimension of field study, survey was used as method focusing on exploration, identification, frequencies and distribution of these features and the state of relationships between the variables of a society.

Since in the survey, questionnaire is the most desirable way to provide these features, common survey technique has been used. survey is a type of width viewing study, means, the studies is carried out in investigation of vast number of population and sometimes, all population are studied here. So, in this method, objective points and low questions are presented (Bagger sarokhani, 2007). In this method a group of people are asked to answer to the questions, and the researcher tries to achieve to the desired goal (Elham Alsadat, 2007).in order to collect data, Emotional Intelligence Questionnaire was used. A number of 146 questionnaires were distributed in the central prison of Kerman and after 4 weeks all of the questionnaires were collected. All of the distributed questionnaires were returned and used for data analysis. In this research, Data analysis is divided into two parts:1. Analysis of descriptive data, 2. Analysis of analytical data.

Analysis of descriptive data is related to description of the realities and description of that exists in the field of the study that includes the frequency distribution and tables. And analysis of the analytical data that is relevant to determining the facts. All of the analysis of the data, including descriptive or inferential statistics is conducted in the spss software.

Table 1: Comparison of emotional intelligence in both criminals of intentional and unintentional crimes:

index	Mean difference	Standard deviation	t	Degree of freedom	Significance level
Emotional intelligence	16/75	1/98	- 8/45	144	0/0

The results of independent t, in comparing two groups show that, with degree of freedom (DF=144) and significance level of  $p < 0/00$  and calculated independent  $t = -8/45$ , the mean difference is significant. So, in the individuals who committed intentional crimes the emotional intelligence is lower than criminals of unintentional crimes.

Table 2: the Comparison of the level of sympathy in perpetrators of intentional and unintentional crimes:

index	Mean difference	Standard deviation	t	Degree of freedom	Significance level

Level of sympathy	2/92	2/02	4/38	144	0/01
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The results of independent t-test to compare the two groups in Table 2.2 show that the degree of freedom  $df=144$  and  $p<0/01$  and calculated independent  $t=4/38$ , the null hypothesis is rejected and the significant difference in mean shows the empathy of two unintentional and intentional crimes group, and it accepts that the perpetrators of unintentional crime is higher than intentional crimes.

Table 3: Comparison self-control of the perpetrators of intentional and unintentional crimes

index	Mean difference	Standard deviation	t	Degree of freedom	Significance level
Self-control	4/16	0/71	5/80	144	0/001

The table above shows that, there is a significant difference between the group of perpetrators of intentional and unintentional crimes with degrees of freedom  $DF=144$ , level of significance ( $p<0/001$ ), and calculated t equal to 5/80. So, self-control in the criminals of unintentional crimes is higher than criminals of intentional crimes.

Table 4: Comparison of consciousness between perpetrators of intentional or unintentional crimes:

index	Mean difference	Standard deviation	t	Degree of freedom	Significance level
Self-consciousness	4/23	0/79	5/31	144	010/

The table above shows that there is a significant difference between self-consciousness of the perpetrators of intentional and unintentional crimes with degrees of freedom  $DF=144$ , significance level ( $p<0/01$ ), and calculated independent t equal to 5/31, so, the rate of self-consciousness in criminals of unintentional crimes is higher than criminals of intentional crimes.

Table 5: Comparison of social skills in criminals of intentional and unintentional crimes

index	Mean difference	Standard deviation	t	Degree of freedom	Significance level
Social skills	4/36	0/69	6/23	144	0/0

The table above shows that there is a significant difference between the perpetrators of intentional and unintentional crimes with degrees of freedom  $df=144$ , significance level ( $p<0/0$ ), and calculated independent t equal to 6/23, so the criminals of unintentional crimes have higher social skills than criminals of intentional crimes.

Table 6: Comparison of self-motivation between perpetrators of intentional and unintentional crimes

index	Mean difference	Standard deviation	t	Degree of freedom	Significance level

Self- motivation	1/75	0/69	2/52	144	0/013
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The table above shows that there is a significant difference between the perpetrators of intentional and unintentional crimes with degrees of freedom  $df=144$ , significance level ( $p<0/013$ ), and calculated independent  $t$  equal to  $2/52$ , so the amount of criminals of Self- motivation of criminals with unintentional crimes is higher than criminals of intentional crimes.

### Conclusion

It is observed, in the studies about the answer to the first question of the study on the existence of difference between emotional intelligence of the criminals of intentional crimes and the emotional intelligence of the criminals of unintentional crimes, as it is shown in Table 1, the mean difference  $16/75$ , and calculated  $t$  of  $-8/45$ , that, there is a significant difference between the mean of emotional intelligence between two groups. Thus, it can be stated that, the criminals of unintentional crimes have higher emotional intelligence than the criminals of intentional crimes, despite the fact that no study has been conducted in this regard.

Regarding the second question, that deals with a comparative study on the empathy of the criminals of intentional crimes with the criminal of unintentional crimes, due to the results obtained from Table 2 according to the mean difference ( $2/92$ ), sympathy for the perpetrators of intentional and unintentional crimes, and the obtained  $t$  ( $4/38$ ), shows a significant difference in the degree of empathy between the criminals of unintentional and intentional crimes and it determines that the amount of empathy in the criminals of unintentional crimes is higher than criminals of intentional crimes.

Regarding the third question, that deals with a comparative study on the amount of self –controlling of the criminals of intentional crimes with the criminal of unintentional crimes, due to the results obtained from Table 3, the mean difference of ( $4/16$ ), and the obtained  $t$  equal to ( $5/80$ ), there is a significant difference, so, the degree of self-controlling in the criminals of unintentional crimes is diagnosed to be higher than criminals of intentional crimes.

In response to the fourth question, that deals holds, whether, the amount of self –consciousness of the criminals of intentional crimes is different from the criminal of unintentional crimes, due to the study of the obtained results based on Table 4, there is a significant difference between two groups of criminals with the mean difference of ( $4/23$ ), with the obtained  $t$  equal to ( $5/31$ ), and this difference will be significant. So, it is completely evident that the degree of self-consciousness in the criminals of intentional crimes is lower than criminals of unintentional crimes.

In analyzing data about the fifth question about, whether the amount of social skills of the perpetrators of the intentional crimes is different from that of criminals of unintentional crimes, through the study of the data on table 5, according to the mean difference  $4/36$  and calculated independent equal to  $6/23$ , there is a significant difference between two groups and the criminals of intentional crimes has lower social skills than the criminals of unintentional crimes.

In analyzing data about the sixth question, that deals with a comparative study of the amount of self-motivation of the perpetrators of the criminals, as observed in Table 6 the obtained mean difference of  $1/75$ , and calculated independent of  $2/52$  indicates the significant difference between two groups. And it shows that the degree of self –motivation in criminals of intentional crimes is lower than the criminals of unintentional crimes.

Accepting that crimes are not merely a psychological phenomenon, it cannot be said that all of the criminals of intentional crimes has lower levels of emotional intelligence. in explaining the results obtained it can be referred to this issue that in conceptualizing emotional intelligence some capabilities have been proposed

that can have effects on the quality of social relations and help the individuals in delaying and controlling impulses and desire.

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