PARENTAL SOCIALIZATION OF PROSOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: PSYCHOMETRIC PROPERTIES OF THE PARENTAL PROSOCIAL PRACTICES QUESTIONNAIRE (PPPQ)

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Background
Despite the growing interest in research on parenting prosocial socialization practices (e.g., scaffolding, praise, coaching; Brownell, 2016), to our knowledge no instruments have been developed for the assessment of such strategies. The following two studies aimed at verifying the PPPQ factorial structure - a questionnaire designed to assess socialization practices concerning prosocial behaviors in early childhood - and to exploring convergence reliability and validity.

Study 1
Method
Participants. 409 Italian parents (M=36 years; SD=5.4) of children aged 12 to 46 months (191 F; M=28.3 months; SD=7.1).
Instruments. PPPQ (Parental Prosocial Practices Questionnaire; Brazzelli et al., 2018): self-report tool originally composed of 12 items concerning parent’s socialization strategies.
Results
Exploratory Factor Analysis and Confirmatory Factorial Analysis showed a good fit for the 9-item model: $\chi^2(31)=51.15, p=.013, NC=2.39$; RMSEA: 1.65; NFI=.95, NNFI=.97, CFI=.98. The three dimensions: Coaching ($\alpha=.729$), Contingency ($\alpha=.698$) and Scaffolding ($\alpha=.499$) are reliable.

Study 2
Method
Participants. 214 Italian parents (M=34.49 years; SD=5.4) of children aged 12 to 40 months (105 F; M=28.27 months; SD=6.49).
Instruments. PPPQ (Brazzelli et al., 2018); MESQ (Maternal Emotional Style Questionnaire; Coplan, 2005; Ciucci & Menesini, 2008), investigates the emotional maternal style; QSP (Questionnaire on Parenting Styles; Venuti & Senese, 2007), investigates the educational styles of parents.
Results
Confirmatory Factor Analysis showed good indices of adaptation of the 3-factor model and 9 items: $\chi^2(24)=44.15, p=.013, NC=1.83$, RMSEA: .063, NFI=.93, NNFI=.96, CFI=.96. The three dimensions prove to be reliable: Coaching ($\alpha=.715$), Contingency ($\alpha=.698$) and Scaffolding ($\alpha=.778$). Statistically significant correlations emerged between the PPPQ dimensions and the QSP styles, on the one hand, and the MESQ Coaching style, on the other.

Conclusions
These findings suggest that the PPPQ is a reliable, easy-to-use instrument for evaluating the socialization practices of Coaching, Contingency and Scaffolding implemented to promote the prosocial behavior of children in early childhood.