The Development and Validation of the Teacher Violence Scale

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Abstract

Problem Statement: One of the initial tasks of the school staff is to create a safe environment, which is free of negative behaviors and role models. However, there has been a concern for the violence in the schools. Most of studies in the literature has focused on aggression, violence, and bullying among students. But, teacher violence against students hasn't been studied sufficiently. In order to investigate this type of violence, a self-report instrument is needed.

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Purpose of the Study: This study aimed to develop and validate the Teacher Violence Scale (TVS), which measures different forms of violent behaviors displayed by teachers against students.

Method: The psychometric properties of the TVS were explored on two separate participant groups. The first one was consisted of 583 (61.0% girls and 39.0% boys) high school students. The second one was composed of 878 (36.7% girls and 63.3% boys) high school students. The initial phases of scale development started with defining the target construct, generating items, and receiving expert reviews. The pilot form was administered to the first participant group and the final form was validated on the second participant group. In addition, some evidence for convergent, discriminant and divergent validity of the TVS were explored. Lastly, the internal consistency for the entire scale and the sub-dimensions of the TVS and the item analysis of the TVS were investigated.

Findings and Results: The exploratory factor analysis (EFA) indicated that the TVS is a 36-item scale with 5 factors namely physical violence (11 items), sexual violence (6 items), accusing/humiliating (8 items), taunting (5 items), and oppressing (6 items). This 5-factor structure explained approximately 64 percent of the total variance. The confirmatory factor analysis (CFA) showed that the 5-factor model was validated \[ \chi^2(584) = 1330.27, \chi^2/df = 2.28, \text{RMSEA} = .04, \text{SRMR} = .06, \text{NNFI} = .99, \text{CFI} = .99 \]. The TVS had a strong evidence for convergent, discriminant and divergent validity. In addition, it had good internal consistency for the scores of entire scale and sub-dimensions.

Conclusion and Recommendations: This study presented some psychometric evidence for the TVS. The results of EFA and CFA indicated that the TVS is a 36-item scale with 5 sub-dimensions. It is expected that the TVS will fill a gap and will be a useful instrument to measure teachers’ violence towards students. Further studies should provide additional evidence for predictive and cross validity and test-retest reliability of the TVS.

Keywords: Teacher violence, scale development, validity, reliability, high school students

Introduction

Although violence is an enduring problem in societies for centuries, it hasn’t been considered as a serious problem for a long time (Pişkin, 2006a). Today, it is apparent that there has been a growing awareness on school violence in Turkey and mass media has given more attention to this issue (Pişkin, Çınkır et al., 2011; Pişkin et al., 2011). However, one of the important responsibilities of schools is to provide an environment that is free of unacceptable behaviors and role models. Moreover, to
feel secure and safe are the prerequisites for keeping on educational activities in schools (Öğülmüş, 1995).

Violence has detrimental effects on children’s development. Although there has been more emphasis on physical harms of violence on students, it also leads to a set of psychological problems such as stress and anxiety. Support to this argument is provided by the observation that students who witnessed violence were psychologically influenced (Furlong & Morrison, 1994). Janosz et al. (2008) pointed out that witnessing violence in schools has a deleterious impact on students’ well-being and it is associated with feelings of insecurity, internalizing problems, later school engagement, poor academic achievement, and truancy. In addition, violence slows down academic, physical, and social development of students and hinders them to achieve their maximum capacity (Furlong, Morrison, & Clontz, 1993). Studies carried out on Turkish elementary and high school samples indicated that most of victimized students felt to be less attracted to their schools and were afraid to go their schools because of bullies (Pişkin, 2010; Pişkin & Ayas, 2005). However, in schools, all students have to be protected from the factors that could be a threat to their physical and psychological well-being. To feel secure and safe is very crucial not only for students but also for all people having a role in schools and education.

Many countries have paid an increased attention to and had concerns about school violence and school safety (Chen & Astor, 2010; Conoley & Goldstein, 2004; Due, Holstein, & Soc, 2008; Nansel et al., 2001; Pişkin, Öğülmüş et al., 2011). When the relevant literature was investigated, it was understood that great attention has been paid to the violent behaviors among students. Students are the focus of research studies. However, to believe that school violence or school safety is related only with incidents among students could be misleading. It is necessary to consider violent behaviors displayed by teachers toward students as well. In the literature, there is a paucity of research investigating violent behaviors of teachers towards students as compared to studies of violence among students. The scant interest of researchers about teacher violent behaviors may have several reasons. First, since teachers are perceived as an authoritative figure in most cultures, to question their acts may not be culturally appropriate. Second, teachers’ behaviors could be considered as a part of educational process and discipline. Therefore, most of their behaviors, including aggressive content could be seen as a way of education that again may prevent to question teachers’ approaches. Lastly, the absence of scales evaluating teachers’ behaviors could be another reason. A few available studies on violent behaviors displayed by teachers against students were conducted based on surveys or interviews.

**Definition of Teacher Violence**

Violence is a broad term and could be defined in many possible ways. But, as a global consensus, the World Health Organization (WHO) defines violence as “the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community, that either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, maldevelopment or
deprivation” (WHO, 1996; as cited in WHO, 2002, p. 4). In accordance with this definition, we conceptualized teacher violence as the intentional use of power by teachers against students in different forms such as physical, verbal, psychological, and sexual, which aims to give harm.

Research on Teachers’ Violent Behaviors Against Students

There is a paucity of research investigating violent behaviors towards students by teachers in Turkey when it is compared to studies of violence among students. Limited number of studies indicated that the most common violent behavior displayed by teachers toward students is corporal punishment (Gözütok, 1993b; Gözütok, Er, & Karacaoğlu, 2006). It seems that corporal punishment has been used as part of education for years and seen as a manifestation of authority (Sümer & Aydın, 1999). Culture has profound influences on the perception of violent behaviors. Studies pointed out that teachers and students believed that corporal punishment is a normal and an acceptable act in education (Saruhan, 1987; Timuroğlu, 1983). Sümer and Aydın (1999) noted that most of the teachers believed that corporal punishment isn’t an effective method of discipline and they are looking for new strategies in dealing with students’ problem behaviors in schools. Studies on corporal punishment in Turkish schools can be summarized with several themes, namely punishment strategies used by teachers, role of teachers’ gender, and places where those punishments or violent behaviors happened. For the first one, Gözütok (1993a) examined the behaviors of teachers in maintaining discipline and found that 30 percent of the teachers were using negative discipline strategies such as slapping, ear and hair pulling, insulting, threatening etc. In another study, Gözütok et al. (2006) investigated students’ perspectives with respect to punishment strategies applied by their teachers. Most of the students reported ears and hairs pulling, slapping, throwing chalk and eraser were the most prevalent punishment methods used by their teachers. Regarding the role of gender in teacher violence, studies found that male teachers were more likely to use negative discipline strategies or violent behaviors against students than female teachers did (Bulut, 2008; Gözütok, 1993a; Hatunoğlu & Hatunoğlu, 2005). Finally, Bulut (2008) reported that these incidents mostly occurred in classrooms and principals’ room.

It is obvious that corporal or physical punishment and school violence have a causal relationship that the use of physical punishment increases the probability of violence in schools (Straus, 1991). Since children whom does their teacher punish or parents have a perception of “being bad”, they can continue their misbehaviors. Ada (2010) found that students punished as a procedure of school discipline are more likely to involve in bullying. Straus (1991) also points out that this causal relationship continues in future and increases the likelihood of deviance such as delinquency, crime, wife-beating etc. Ünal and Çukur (2011) explored the association between delinquency and school related factors, such as attachment to teacher, commitment to school, and discipline techniques. They found that delinquency was negatively related to attachment to teacher, commitment to school, and inductive discipline techniques. In addition, they reported that delinquency was positively associated with coercive discipline techniques and being bullied in school.
Teachers’ behaviors are seen as a role modeling and their positive behaviors will contribute significantly to the development of children. A study (Telli, den Brok, & Çakiroğlu, 2008) investigating perceptions of students regarding the concept of ideal teacher found that students described the ideal teacher as a person who is guiding, motivating, encouraging, respecting, and instilling confidence and has a potential to build positive relationship with others. Therefore, having healthy communication with students will provide a motivation for students how to direct their lives in a more positive way. Yurtal and Artut (2010) suggested that the approaches of teachers and principal for dealing with problems are very crucial. If they use violence coping with problems, this may increase the inclination toward it. The aggressive teacher and principal figures in children’s drawings are also good evidence for how teachers and principals have an influential role in students’ world (Yurtal & Artut, 2010). In a qualitative study, Çakmak (2011) investigated the perspectives of 185 Turkish prospective teachers related to changing roles of teachers. Interestingly, majority of the prospective teachers reported that their primary roles as a teacher were to transmit knowledge, guide, and to deliver the content in the program. Being a role model was reported at the eleventh place. This finding indicated that the prospective teachers prioritized the tasks related to their self-improvements more than other roles.

**Purpose of the Study**

Considering the lack of instruments in the literature, it is obvious that there is a need to develop a scale evaluating the multidimensional nature of teacher violence. It is expected that such a tool could promote research that will contribute to understanding the nature of behaviors displayed by teachers against students. Therefore, the present study aimed at developing a valid and reliable instrument to assess violent behaviors of teachers towards students in schools.

**Method**

**Participants**

Two groups of participants were used in this study to perform exploratory and confirmatory factor analyses.Exploratory factor analysis was done on the first participant group that consisted of 583 students from five different types of high schools located in urban and rural areas of Ankara, Turkey. The selection of schools was done purposively considering the variation in types of high schools in Turkey. These school types were General, Anatolian, Girls’ Vocational, Industrial Vocational, and Imam-Preacher high schools. The participants were selected through employing a convenience sampling. Two hundred twenty two (39.0%) of the participants were boys and 351 (61.0%) of them were girls. This group consisted of 146 (25.5%) ninth, 172 (29.9%) tenth, 146 (25.5%) eleventh, and 110 (19.1%) twelfth grade students.

Confirmatory factor analysis was done on the second participant group that comprised of 878 high school students. This group was drawn from four high schools in Ankara. Three hundred three participants (36.7%) were girls and 522 (63.3%) were
boys. Fifty-three participants didn't report their gender information. The study group consisted of 252 (32.5%) ninth, 188 (24.2%) tenth, 175 (22.6%) eleventh, and 161 (20.7%) twelfth grade students. A hundred two participants didn't report their grade level information. The participants' age ranged from 14 to 20 ($M = 16.42$, $SD = 1.21$).

**Measures**

Demographic variables. The participants completed a demographic information form including questions about gender, grade level, age, and type of school.

Teacher violence against students. Teacher Violence Scale (TVS) (see Appendix I) evaluates the violent behaviors displayed by teachers against students. This is a student self-report and measures teachers’ violent behaviors from the perspective of students. The TVS which is a 36-item scale was responded on a 6-point scale ranging from $0 = \text{never}$ to $5 = \text{almost every day}$. Higher scores obtained from the scale indicated higher teacher violence toward students.

Perceptions about bullying. The Myths about Bullying Inventory (MABI) developed by Pişkin (2006b) was administered to measure students’ prejudgments, irrational beliefs and thoughts about bullying. The MABI is a 27-item scale with five response options ranging from $1 = \text{strongly disagree}$ to $5 = \text{strongly agree}$. The scale consists of two dimensions namely erroneous approaches in dealing with bullying and justification of bullying behaviors. The Cronbach’s alpha coefficients were found as .89 for the entire scale, .82 for the first dimension, and .83 for the second dimension. In the current study, this instrument was used as a criterion for the divergent validity of TVS.

**Procedure**

Item development. During the process of scale development, the researchers conducted a comprehensive literature review and interviews with students, teachers, and school principals by asking their opinions about teachers’ violent behaviors towards students. The researchers generated items based on the literature review and opinions of these groups. These generated items were examined in terms of clarity and content appropriateness by a group of faculty members from the departments of psychological counseling and guidance, educational psychology, curriculum development, educational administration and policy, and measurement and evaluation. This process was finalized with a pilot form including 43 items.

Data collection process. This study was carried out during the spring semester of 2009/2010 academic year. Prior to scale administration, the approval was received from the Turkish Ministry of National Education. Then, the researchers visited the high schools located in rural and urban area of Ankara to explain the purpose of the study. After obtaining schools’ approval, the data were collected through collaborating with school counselors and teachers. The instruments were administered in the classrooms by the researchers and the instruction about how to respond to the scales and the purpose of the study were provided to the participants. During the data collection process, some ethical issues such as informed consent,
confidentiality, and volunteered participation were also ensured. Administration lasted about twenty-five minutes.

**Analysis of Data**

To reveal the underlying structure among the items in the TVS, an exploratory factor analysis (EFA) was conducted. Then, the factor structure obtained with the EFA was tested with confirmatory factor analysis (CFA) to test whether this structure was consistent with the data. After confirming the factor structure of the TVS, more evidence for the validity of the TVS (e.g. convergent, discriminant and divergent validity) was explored. Lastly, the internal consistencies for overall and sub-dimensions scores of the TVS were calculated and the item analysis was performed.

**Results**

**Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA)**

An EFA using maximum likelihood extraction with an oblique rotation was performed to explore the TVS’s underlying factor structure. The rationale of an oblique rotation is that it assumes correlations between the factors (Tabachnick & Fidell, 2001). Supporting this, high correlations between the factors were found. Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy indicated that the sample size of the study was quite appropriate for the factor analysis (.95), which should be greater than .60 (Tabachnick & Fidell, 2001) to conduct a factor analysis. Bartlett’s Test of Sphericity was also significant. The EFA using maximum likelihood method with an oblique rotation revealed a six-factor solution with eigenvalues over one. Eigenvalues of these components were 40.97, 7.65, 6.23, 3.20, 2.99, and 2.62, respectively. This six-factor solution explained 63.66 percent of the total variance. Since the six-factor solution wasn’t interpretable, we identified a five-factor solution considering our pre-determined number of factors based on the research objectives. Therefore, we repeated the EFA with fixing the number of factors at five. The selection of items were performed based on eigenvalues (>1), factor loading (>0.32), and cross-loadings on other dimensions (Tabachnick & Fidell, 2001). Seven items were cross-loaded on other components and omitted from the scale. After that, the EFA was repeated on the remaining 36 items. This five-factor solution was interpretable and met the item selection criteria (e.g., factor loadings above .32). A five-factor solution accounted for 63.81 percent of the total variance. Factors, items, factors loadings, means, and standard deviations were presented in Table 1. The first factor was labeled as physical violence and consisted of 11 items accounting for 41.31 percent of the total variance. The second factor was labeled as sexual violence, included 6 items and accounted for 8.41 percent of the total variance. The third factor was labeled as accusing/humiliating, included 8 items and accounted for 7.20 percent of the total variance. The fourth factor was labeled as taunting, consisted of 5 items and accounted for 3.60 percent of the total variance. Lastly, the fifth factor was labeled as oppressing, included 6 items and accounted for 3.29 percent of the total variance.
Table 1.
Items, Factor Loadings, and Descriptive Statistics for the TVS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>36 items</th>
<th>Factor Loadings</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>SD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Physical Violence</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Slapping on the face</td>
<td>.88</td>
<td>.02</td>
<td>.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Hitting on the head</td>
<td>.81</td>
<td>-.02</td>
<td>.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Hitting with an object such as stick, ruler etc.</td>
<td>.74</td>
<td>.04</td>
<td>.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Pulling ears</td>
<td>.71</td>
<td>.01</td>
<td>.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Punching</td>
<td>.69</td>
<td>-.13</td>
<td>-.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Kicking</td>
<td>.65</td>
<td>-.06</td>
<td>-.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Clinking heads of two students</td>
<td>.64</td>
<td>-.18</td>
<td>.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Throwing some objects to students</td>
<td>.61</td>
<td>.05</td>
<td>.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Hitting the head of the students against the wall or desk</td>
<td>.56</td>
<td>-.03</td>
<td>-.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Pulling hair</td>
<td>.44</td>
<td>.04</td>
<td>.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Making student to stand on one foot in the classroom</td>
<td>.39</td>
<td>-.12</td>
<td>-.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sexual Violence</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41. Sexual movements (hand, arm, eye movement etc.)</td>
<td>.03</td>
<td>-.96</td>
<td>.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40. Calling him/her with words having sexual connotations</td>
<td>.05</td>
<td>-.92</td>
<td>.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42. Sexual touching</td>
<td>.09</td>
<td>-.87</td>
<td>-.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43. Creating and spreading rumors of sexual nature</td>
<td>-.03</td>
<td>-.83</td>
<td>-.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39. Forcing to talk about sexuality</td>
<td>.03</td>
<td>-.79</td>
<td>-.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38. Making jokes of sexual nature</td>
<td>-.01</td>
<td>-.78</td>
<td>.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Accusing/Humiliating</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Accusing with no reason</td>
<td>-.03</td>
<td>-.12</td>
<td>.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Continuously searching to find defects</td>
<td>.02</td>
<td>-.04</td>
<td>.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. Threatening to give low marks or to fail the class</td>
<td>.03</td>
<td>.03</td>
<td>.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Scolding the whole class or a group that you are in</td>
<td>.05</td>
<td>.13</td>
<td>.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Calling rude words (stupid, silly, idiot, meek etc.)</td>
<td>.18</td>
<td>-.01</td>
<td>.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. To regard as inferior</td>
<td>-.06</td>
<td>-.10</td>
<td>.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26. To embarrass in front of the other students (making fun of homework or exam papers)</td>
<td>.03</td>
<td>.04</td>
<td>.60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 1. Continue...

29. Ignoring not giving permission to talk, not responding to questions etc.
   -01 -14 .50 .10 .06 .75 1.44

Taunting

13. Making fun about personal appearance (clothes, glasses, etc.)
   .13 .01 .15 .61 .03 .31 .88

14. Making fun about accents, dialect or style of pronunciation
   .19 .03 -.04 .60 .17 .29 .86

12. Making fun of physical characteristics such as height, weight, dentition, color of hair, color of skin etc.
   .15 -.07 .15 .56 -.06 .35 .99

16. Calling insulting names, nicknames
   -.00 -.10 .16 .55 -.04 .38 1.07

15. Making fun about first name or surname
   .14 -.12 -.03 .54 .06 .29 .87

Oppressing

32. Restrict freedom such as not allowing to go out the class during break times
   .19 -.19 .11 -.06 .51 .65 1.36

34. Unjustly complaining to the administration
   .02 -.20 .13 .12 .47 .51 1.22

36. Tearing personal belongings such as books, notebooks, homework or drawings
   .11 -.25 -.03 .32 .44 .38 1.07

27. Giving extra homework as punishment
   .11 -.04 .30 -.03 .42 .91 1.48

33. Making negative speech or comments about some students to influence the others
   -.04 -.14 .24 .22 .37 .50 1.20

35. Disclosing personal information
   .03 -.21 .01 .18 .36 .35 1.03

Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA)

To test how well the five-factor model fit, a CFA was conducted. The purpose of conducting the CFA is that it provides many analytic possibilities (e.g., assessment of method effects, investigation of the stability or invariance of the factor model over informants) that are not possible to obtain with EFA (Brown, 2006). A CFA was performed using maximum-likelihood estimation to test the fit of five-factor model to the data. Results of the CFA suggested that the fit indices of the five-factor model was very good \[\chi^2(584) = 1330.27, \frac{\chi^2}{df} = 2.28, RMSEA = .04, SRMR = .06, NNFI = .99, CFI = .99\]. The CFA results for the five-factor model of TVS were shown in Figure 1. Factor pattern coefficients for the items of physical violence ranged from .57 to .78, those for items of taunting from .71 to .83, those for items of accusing/humiliating from .61 to .80, those for items of oppressing from .63 to .81, and those for items of sexual violence from .83 to .91. \(R^2\) for the items of physical violence ranged from .32 to .61, those for the items of taunting from .50 to .68, those for the items of accusing/humiliating from .37 to .64, those for the items of oppressing from .40 to .66, and those for the items of sexual violence from .68 to .82.
Figure 1. Confirmatory Factor Analysis of the Five-Factor Model of the TVS
For the convergent validity of the TVS, standardized factor loadings of the items, average variance extracted (AVE) and composite reliabilities (CR) of the dimensions, and whether CR values are higher than AVE values were examined. Hair, Black, Babin, and Anderson (2010) suggested a criterion for the standardized factor loadings and AVE values as ≥.50 and a criterion for the CR values as ≥.70. Byrne (2010) also suggested that the CR values should be larger than the AVE values. The results indicated that all standardized factor loadings and AVE values were above the criterion of ≥.50. Also, the composite reliabilities ranged between .80 and .94, which they were above the criterion of ≥.70. Lastly, all CR values were larger than the AVE values of the dimensions of TVS. Consequently, these findings indicated a full evidence for the convergent validity of TVS.

For the discriminant validity of the TVS, maximum shared squared variances (MSV) and average shared squared variances (ASV) were explored. It is expected that the AVEs should be larger than MSVs and ASVs (Hair et al., 2010). All AVEs were larger than the ASVs. In addition, the AVEs of three dimensions (physical violence, taunting, and sexual violence) were larger than their MSVs whereas the AVEs of two dimensions (accusing/humiliating and oppressing) were smaller than their MSVs. These findings provided a partial support for the discriminant validity of the TVS.

Divergent Validity of the TVS

The study of divergent validity was conducted on the data of first participant group. Correlation findings (see Table 2) indicated that the total scores from each subscale and entire scale of the TVS were positively correlated to the total scores from each subscale of the MABI as well as to the MABI’s total scores. Only one dimension of the TVS, accusing/humiliating, was unrelated to the second dimension of the MABI (Justification of Bullying Behaviors). Regarding divergent validity, the results indicated that these correlations were not too strong. This demonstrates that the construct of teacher violence is different from the construct of myths about bullying.
Table 2.
Correlations, Reliabilities, Mean, and Standard Deviations for the Sub-dimensions and Total of TVS and MABI

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scales/Sub-dimensions</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Physical Violence</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Sexual Violence</td>
<td>.56*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Accusing/Humiliating</td>
<td>.48*</td>
<td>.41*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Taunting</td>
<td>.69*</td>
<td>.59*</td>
<td>.53*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Oppressing</td>
<td>.61*</td>
<td>.66*</td>
<td>.64*</td>
<td>.61*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6. TVS – Total</td>
<td>.81*</td>
<td>.74*</td>
<td>.82*</td>
<td>.79*</td>
<td>.86*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7. MABI – Subscale 1</td>
<td>.12*</td>
<td>.15*</td>
<td>.11*</td>
<td>.19*</td>
<td>.22*</td>
<td>.19*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. MABI – Subscale 2</td>
<td>.18*</td>
<td>.20*</td>
<td>.07*</td>
<td>.24*</td>
<td>.27*</td>
<td>.21*</td>
<td>.84*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. MABI – Total</td>
<td>.17*</td>
<td>.19*</td>
<td>.09*</td>
<td>.22*</td>
<td>.26*</td>
<td>.21*</td>
<td>.94*</td>
<td>.96*</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

\[ \alpha \] .93 .96 .89 .85 .85 .96 .90 .92 .95

\[ M \] 4.57 1.54 8.37 1.61 3.23 23.75 27.59 30.62 58.05

\[ SD \] 8.90 5.07 9.60 3.70 5.61 32.44 12.55 14.45 25.16

Note. * \( p < .05 \), ** \( p < .01 \)

Internal Reliability of the TVS

The Cronbach’s alpha coefficients for the sub-dimensions and entire of the TVS were calculated using two participant groups. The coefficients obtained from the first participant group were presented in Table 2. These coefficients for the sub-dimensions of the TVS and for the entire scale ranged between .85 and .96. The coefficients obtained from the second participant group were .92 for physical violence, .95 for sexual violence, .90 for accusing/humiliating, .88 for taunting, .87 for oppressing, and .96 for the entire scale. All these Cronbach’s alpha coefficients indicated that the TVS had good internal consistencies.

Item Analysis of the TVS

The item analysis of the TVS was done using the data of second participant group. For the item analysis, the corrected-item total correlations and lower/upper 27% group differences for each item score were explored. The corrected-item total correlations for the TVS ranged between .50 and .70. The t-test results indicated significant group differences between lower 27% and upper 27% group of each item score (\( p < .01 \)).
Conclusions and Recommendations

This study provides psychometric support for the Teacher Violence Scale (TVS). The EFA results indicated that the TVS yielded 5 distinguishable and interpretable factors including 36 items. These five factors explained almost 64 percent of the total variance. Factors were labeled as physical violence (11 items), sexual violence (6 items), accusing/humiliating (8 items), taunting (5 items), and oppressing (6 items). To validate the five-factor solution obtained through EFA, 36 items were analyzed with the CFA. Results of the CFA suggested a good fit to the data. The TVS had full evidence for the convergent validity and a partial evidence for discriminant validity. The results of divergent validity showed that greater exposure to the teacher violence was related to higher prejudgments, irrational beliefs and thoughts about bullying. However, there was no strong relationship between the scores of the TVS and the MABI. This indicates that the construct assessed by the TVS was different from the construct assessed by the MABI. The reliability estimates for the overall scale, as well as for the sub-dimensions of the TVS, suggested that it was a highly reliable instrument to use.

This study has provided some significant information to the field of teacher violence research. First of all, to the best of our knowledge, no instrument evaluating teacher violent behavior against students from the perspective of students has yet been developed. Therefore, it is expected that this scale will fill a gap and will be a useful tool for educators and researchers to evaluate teachers’ aggressive behaviors towards students. An additional strength of this study is that the TVS was developed over a diverse population from different types of high schools and this enhances the applicability of our results to the schools and students displaying similar characteristics as the ones surveyed in Ankara.

The current investigation has several limitations. Firstly, the participants were selected from schools located only in Ankara. The generalizability of the TVS needs to be investigated among different populations and geographic locations. Secondly, this study only examined convergent, discriminant and divergent validity of the TVS. This needs to be expanded with additional validity studies, such as predictive, cross validity etc. Lastly, test-retest reliability coefficients weren’t calculated due to a lack of repeated measures. Therefore, future studies should examine test-retest reliability of the TVS.

Acknowledgements: This study was supported by the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) (Project No: 108K305; Project Title: “Determining Violence in High Schools and Developing a Prevention Program”). We acknowledged that some parts of this study was presented at the X. National Psychological Counseling and Guidance Congress (2009, October), in Adana.
References


**Öğretmen Şiddeti Ölçeği’nin Geliştirilmesi ve Doğrulanması**

**Atıf:**

**Özet**

Araştırmanın Amacı: Öğretmenden öğrenciye yönelik şiddet olaylarının araştırılabilmesi için öğrenciler tarafından yanıtlanabilecek bir ölçme aracına ihtiyaç duyulmaktadır. Bu çalışmada, okullarda öğretmenler tarafından öğrencilerle uygulanan şiddet davranışlarını belirlemek için öğrenciler tarafından doldurulan bir ölçme aracının geliştirilmesi amaçlanmıştır.


Araştırmanın Sonuçları ve Öneriler: Bu çalışmada, Öğretmen Şiddeti Ölçeğinin geliştirilmesi ve doğrulanması için birtakım psikometrik bulgular sunulmuştur.

Anahtar Sözcüklər: Öğretmen şiddetı, ölçek geliştirme, geçerlik, güvenilirlik, lise öğrencileri.
Appendix I

Teacher Violence Scale

At below, there are some violent behaviors displayed by teachers against students. Please fill in the boxes for each item considering **how frequently** your teachers displayed these behaviors against you **in the past year**. Please respond to the items considering whether it happened to **you** and how frequently it happened. **Considering the past year**, fill in the boxes using a six-point scale given at below.

1. Never  
2. At least once a year  
3. At least once a term  
4. At least once a month  
5. At least once a week  
6. Almost everyday

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pulling hair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pulling ears</td>
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<tr>
<td>Slapping on the face</td>
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<tr>
<td>Punching</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hitting on the head</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinking heads of two students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hitting the head of the students against the wall or desk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kicking</td>
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<td>Hitting with an object such as stick, ruler etc.</td>
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<td>Throwing some objects to students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Making student to stand on one foot in the classroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Making fun of physical characteristics such as height, weight,</td>
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<td>dentition, color of hair, color of skin etc.</td>
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<td>Making fun about personal appearance (clothes, glasses, etc.)</td>
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<td>Making fun about accents, dialect or style of pronunciation</td>
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<td>Making fun about first name or surname</td>
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<tr>
<td>Calling insulting names, nicknames</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scolding the whole class or a group that you are in</td>
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<td>Calling rude words (stupid, silly, idiot, meek etc.)</td>
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19. Continuously searching to find defects
20. Accusing with no reason
21. To regard as inferior
22. Threatening to give low marks or to fail the class
23. To embarrass in front of the other students (making fun of homework or exam papers)
24. Ignoring not giving permission to talk, not responding to questions etc.
25. Giving extra homework as punishment
26. Restrict freedom such as not allowing to go out the class during break times
27. Making negative speech or comments about some students to influence the others
28. Unjustly complaining to the administration
29. Disclosing personal or private information
30. Tearing personal belongings such as books, notebooks, homework or drawings
31. Making jokes of sexual nature
32. Forcing to talk about sexuality
33. Calling him/her with words having sexual connotations
34. Sexual movements (hand, arm, eye movement etc.)
35. Sexual touching
36. Creating and spreading rumors of sexual nature