

Review of: "Variability in Psychological Security Among Individuals and Groups: An Evolutionary and Developmental Perspective"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Thank you for the invitation to review this important work.

The paper is well-written, informative, and presents a thorough and rigorous study of psychological security and its various dimensions. The study, however, is a collation of information from available literature and does not thus add significantly to extant knowledge on the subject except by way of analysis and contextualization of findings from available studies. This, in itself, is not without value, and the flow of the discussions does present a perspective on the nature and influence of this important aspect of animal behaviour. There are certain specific questions which arise: the researchers have posited that a "sense of security" is different from "psychological security". However, within the description of the difference, it appeared that the two constructs, as presented by the researchers, present a causal relationship: a sense of security leads to psychological security, which in turn is thus an outcome variable. Ergo, the question that might follow is whether psychological security is influenced significantly by a plethora of factors which might or might not be related to a 'sense of security'. It is in this aspect that the paper is important because it deals with several factors that do influence psychological security to a significantly high extent.

The paper would be enriched by an empirical study to explore the relationship of the various factors that are proposed to influence psychological security, especially "sense of safety". That will serve to add significantly to the existing body of knowledge on this subject.