A Research on the Reasons of Mathematics Anxiety of the Students at the Science, Social And Technical

Sciences Departments of the Universities in Turkey

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Abstract

The mathematics anxiety starts with families more before the students meet with the mathematics and continue

throughout their school life. The conscious of students or their growth does not eliminate this anxiety and besides, it

always appears as a resistance in mathematics teaching. This does not much differ in the university education.

In this study, I aimed to develop a valid and reliable a Likert type attitude scale to bring out the mathematics anxiety

of university students. While developing the scale, related literature was searched, students' opinions were asked by

two open-ended questions and experts' ideas were benefited. Likert type attitude scale that was developed in 6 major

subjects; family and society, school and instructor, effects on future life, hardness of course, love of course and

importance of course, from the investigation and evaluation of open ended questions was administrated to 615

students from three different fields such as science, social science and technical science of Marmara University in

2002-2003 academic year. Collected data were analyzed and evaluated by using factor analysis. In statistical items

54 out of 100 chosen for the second analysis. Cronbach alpha reliability coefficient of the scale was found as 0.8489.

There were 4 subscales in the scale and reliability coefficients of each were found as 0.66, 0.88, 0.62 and 0.75

respectively.

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