

# THE EFFECT OF PERSONAL NEED FOR STRUCTURE ON BURNOUT: A YOUTH STUDY

Praachi Bhardwaj
B.A. (Hons.) Applied Psychology
2021-2024
AMITY INSTITUTE OF PSYCHOLOGY AND ALLIED SCIENCES
Amity University, Sector 125, Noida, Uttar Pradesh, India – 201301

#### **ABSTRACT**

This study investigates the relationship between personal need for structure (PNS) and burnout among youth, examining emotional exhaustion, depersonalization, and personal accomplishment. Results indicate a weak positive correlation between emotional exhaustion and PNS, though not statistically significant, and a significant negative correlation between depersonalization and PNS. Conversely, a significant positive correlation is found between personal accomplishment and PNS, while no significant relationship is observed between overall burnout and PNS. These findings underscore the importance of tailored interventions in youth mental health, emphasizing the nuanced interplay between individual cognitive traits and burnout dimensions. Further longitudinal research is needed to inform targeted preventive strategies effectively.

Keywords: Burnout, Youth, Personal Need for Structure, Emotional Exhaustion, Depersonalization, Personal Accomplishment, Mental Health, Intervention.

### INTRODUCTION

Burnout is a complex mental condition that can foster after some time because of drawn out openness to constant stressors, both in private and expert circles. It is described by a mix of close to home weariness, a feeling of pessimism or separation from one's work or individual life, and a diminished feeling of individual achievement. Perceiving the side effects of burnout is vital for early intercession and anticipation. It is a condition of profound, physical, and mental depletion brought about by exorbitant and delayed pressure. It happens when people feel overpowered, genuinely depleted, and incapable to fulfil steady needs. Burnout can prompt diminished efficiency, drained energy, sensations of weakness, sadness, negativity, and disdain. It can influence different parts of life, including work, home, and public activity, and may make people more defenceless against ailments like colds and influenza. According to Kokkinos (2007), burnout is portrayed as "a negative full of feeling reaction happening because of ongoing work pressure.

Firstly, individuals experiencing burnout often exhibit signs of professional alienation. This includes seeing their occupation as excessively overbearing and disappointing, prompting close to home withdrawal from their errands and partners. Sensations of indifference with regards to work errands and collaborators can become inescapable, adding to a feeling of disconnection and disengagement.

Physically, burnout can manifest in various ways, including headaches, lethargy, and digestive issues. These physical symptoms are often a direct result of prolonged stress and can further exacerbate feelings of fatigue and overall malaise.

Emotional exhaustion is a hallmark symptom of burnout, where individuals feel drained, overwhelmed, and unable to cope with the demands of daily life. This profound sense of fatigue can make it challenging to find motivation or enjoyment in activities that were once fulfilling.

Additionally, burnout can fundamentally affect performance, both at work and in private obligations. People might encounter a decrease in efficiency, experience issues focusing, and battle to create novel thoughts or arrangements. This

diminished presentation can prompt sensations of dissatisfaction and self-question, sustaining the pattern of burnout. For instance, faculty members with high burnout exhibited significantly lower scholarly productivity compared to those with less burnout, emphasizing the detrimental effects of burnout on performance (Woo et al., 2020). On the other hand, no significant relationship was found between different burnout dimensions and sick leaves, indicating variations in the impact of burnout on absenteeism across studies (Siu et al., 2013). These findings underscore the importance of addressing burnout to maintain individual, team, and organizational performance effectively.

The effects of burnout extend beyond individual well-being and can have far-reaching consequences in various aspects of life. Persistent ailments may develop, for example, coronary illness, hypertension, and type 2 diabetes. Psychological well-being is likewise impacted, with an improved probability of discouragement, tension, and anger related issues. Individual connections might endure, as people pull out from social communications, take part in substance misuse, and display unreliability in overseeing funds or satisfying familial commitments.

Professionally, burnout can lead to job dissatisfaction, strained relationships with colleagues, and a decline in overall job performance. Withdrawal from professional networks and decreased engagement in work-related activities further perpetuate feelings of isolation and detachment.

Personal need for structure can be defined as the need for simple, clear, predictable, and consistent interpretations of the world, to make it easier to navigate through complex realities (Landau et al., 2015; Neuberg & Newsom, 1993). This psychological inclination towards clarity and routine varies among individuals, influencing how they perceive and navigate their environment (Friesen et al., 2014).

The significance of PNS lies in its impact on cognitive, emotional, and behavioural aspects. Individuals with a high PNS typically seek structured environments, feeling more secure and competent within clear frameworks, which can buffer against stressors associated with ambiguity (Noordewier & Rutjen, 2021). However, the absence of such structure can exacerbate stress, contributing to burnout—a syndrome characterized by emotional exhaustion and reduced accomplishment (Frick et al., 2023; Bethea et al., 2020). Research indicates that individuals with a high PNS may experience heightened stress in environments lacking clear guidelines or support systems, particularly when coupled with limited autonomy (Slowiak & Jay, 2023). Additionally, they tend to evaluate situations of low control as more negative, emphasizing the importance of control motivation, especially for those with a strong need for order (Noordewier & Rutjen, 2021).

Brandstätter et al. (2016) highlighted the impact of mismatches between unconscious needs and workplace demands on burnout. The research focused on two key motives: the power motive and the affiliation motive. Results showed that mismatches between job characteristics and these implicit motives could lead to burnout, emphasizing the importance of aligning individual needs with job requirements to prevent burnout effectively. Understanding the relationship between PNS and burnout is essential for designing interventions to prevent and alleviate burnout in various occupational settings. By acknowledging and accommodating diverse needs for structure, organizations can create supportive environments that foster well-being, resilience, and productivity (Bethea et al., 2020).

This study aims to examine the connection between private requirement for structure and burnout among youth. By analysing how individual differences in the need for structure might affect the probability and seriousness of burnout side effects in teenagers and young adults, the exploration looks to reveal insight into factors adding to youth psychological wellness and illuminate likely mediations.

This study is particularly pertinent due to the lack of existing research in this specific area. Despite the well-documented prevalence of burnout among youth, there remains a notable gap in understanding how individual differences in the need for structure may influence burnout levels in this demographic. This absence underscores the importance of conducting this study, as it seeks to fill this gap in the literature and provide novel insights into the factors contributing to youth burnout. By addressing this gap, the study aims to contribute valuable knowledge to the field of youth psychology and inform future research and interventions aimed at addressing burnout among young people.

#### REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Frick et al. (2023), did a study on The effect of time and day of the week on burnout-related experiences. A seven-day experience sampling strategy was employed. The participants' experiences with burnout varied significantly more across moments than between days, according to the results. Throughout the day, exhaustion displayed a U-shaped pattern that increased toward the end, but disengagement episodes lacked a distinct temporal pattern. Weekly trajectories showed that, in between workdays, feelings of positive challenge, boredom, and tiredness were generally consistent. In order to prevent chronic burnout, the study proposed that a combination of chronobiological and organizational processes influence the daily pattern of weariness. This emphasizes the significance of addressing workload and promoting circadian alignment. Slowiak and Jay (2023), studied Burnout among behaviour analysts in times of crisis: The roles of work demands, professional social support, and psychological flexibility. The results showed that practitioners' degrees of emotional

exhaustion and disengagement were correlated with increasing work demands. The study revealed that psychological flexibility and supervisor support play a crucial role as partial mediators between work demands and weariness and can predict burnout. Nevertheless, it was discovered that neither variable mediated the link between burnout and labour demands. It's interesting that there was no discernible moderator or mediator for colleague assistance. These findings highlight the significance of efficient caseload management, good supervisory techniques, and programs encouraging constructive relationships among coworkers.

Obschonka et al. (2023), studied Job burnout and work engagement in entrepreneurs: How the psychological utility of entrepreneurship drives healthy engagement. Data was collected from 348 entrepreneurs and 1002 employees. Findings reveal that entrepreneurs, especially solo entrepreneurs, experience lower levels of job burnout compared to employees, indicating a positive pattern of job demands and resources. Job resources, particularly autonomy, mediate this relationship, while personal resources like psychological capital do not significantly influence burnout. Despite reporting less psychological detachment from work, entrepreneurs do not exhibit significantly higher burnout levels, suggesting potential adaptation to alternative forms of recovery. Overall, solo entrepreneurship emerges as the psychologically healthiest form, characterized by high work engagement and fewer burnout manifestations, attributable to favourable job demands and resources.

Buran and Altın (2021), explored Burnout among physicians working in a pandemic hospital during the COVID-19 pandemic. The study investigated burnout among physicians during the first phase of the COVID-19 pandemic in a major hospital in Turkey. It involved internal medicine physicians working in various departments under intense pandemic conditions. A face-to-face survey collected data on demographic information, medicolegal issues, and burnout using the Maslach Burnout Inventory. Results showed significant concerns among physicians regarding malpractice (58.2%), with a majority expressing the need for medicolegal training (82.1%) and some reporting exposure to violence at work (25.4%). Burnout sub-dimensions were notably associated with concerns about malpractice and violence. Female physicians, married individuals, and those working in the emergency service were more likely to report exposure to violence.

DeSousa et al. (2021), did a study on Associated Determinants Between Evidence of Burnout, Physical Activity, and Health Behaviours of University Students. The study, involving 3,578 undergraduate students, found a high prevalence of burnout signs, with 40.4% of participants exhibiting symptoms. Female students, those aged 20-29, with poor academic performance, and in the Human Sciences field showed higher susceptibility to burnout. Initial analyses indicated a significant association between physical activity and burnout signs. However, after adjusting for demographic and environmental factors, physical activity did not remain significant in the model. This suggests that while physical activity may initially appear correlated with lower burnout, its relationship becomes less clear when considering other influential factors.

Noordewier and Rutjen (2021), studied how Personal need for structure shapes the perceived impact of reduced personal control. Results consistently showed that individuals with a high personal need for structure evaluated situations of low control as more important and negative compared to those with a low need for structure. This suggests that while control motivation is important for everyone, it is particularly salient for individuals with a strong need for order and structure in their lives. Interestingly, no differences were observed in evaluations of situations with high levels of control, indicating that the enjoyment of control is universal regardless of individual differences in need for structure. These findings align with the conceptualization of control motivation as rooted in a fundamental need for order and structure, and underscore the importance of considering individual differences in understanding psychological responses to threats to personal control.

Bethea et al (2020), studied The impact of burnout syndrome on practitioners working within rural healthcare systems. Surveys distributed at regional trauma conferences in 2018 gathered responses from a diverse group, including emergency medical services (EMS), nurses, and physicians. Results revealed a notable BOS prevalence of 31%, affecting various disciplines such as physicians, EMS, and nurses. Participants recognized the detrimental effects of BOS on both personal health and patient care, reporting increased stress, workplace chaos, and excessive documentation time, particularly among those with BOS. Moreover, individuals experiencing BOS expressed lower job satisfaction, reduced control over workload, and challenges in team efficiency. Specific factors contributing to BOS in EMS included lack of workload control, poor alignment with employer values, ineffective teamwork, and increased home documentation time.

Roster and Ferrari (2020), aimed to study How Perceived Control of Time and Procrastination Influence Emotional Exhaustion on the Job. They collected data from 356 US adult office workers via an Internet survey. The results found that perceived control of time (PCT) had a significant buffering effect on emotional exhaustion arising from workload demands among office workers. Specifically, higher levels of PCT were associated with reduced emotional exhaustion, both directly and indirectly, by mitigating the impact of workload demands. Additionally, supervisor support buffered the negative relationship between change stressors and exhaustion, while job control moderated the negative relationship between change and professional efficacy. These findings suggest that interventions aimed at providing workers with more control over their time could help alleviate stress associated with demanding workloads. However, the efficacy of

such interventions may vary based on individual traits like procrastination tendencies, with chronic procrastinators benefiting less from increased control over time if not provided with effective self-regulation tools.

Hosseinabadi et al. (2019), studied The effects of amplitude and stability of circadian rhythm and occupational stress on burnout syndrome (BS) and job dissatisfaction (JD) among irregular shift working nurses. Four teaching hospitals' worth of data from 684 nurses were analyzed using independent t-tests, one-way ANOVA, and multiple linear regression. Results indicated that psychological demand and workplace support were significant predictors of BS and JD. Male nurses reported lower BS and higher JD compared to female nurses, and irregular shift work was associated with higher odds of BS and JD. Additionally, nurses classified as languid experienced more BS and JD compared to vigorous nurses. The findings underscore the importance of addressing occupational stressors and individual differences in circadian rhythm to reduce burnout and job dissatisfaction among irregular shift-working nurses.

Khan et al. (2018), focused on Effect of Burnout on Organizational Citizenship Behaviours: Mediating Role of Affective and Continuance Commitment. Their study conducted in public sector hospitals in Peshawar, Pakistan, found a significant negative direct effect of burnout on organizational citizenship behaviour (OCB) at both individual and organizational levels. Both affective and continuance commitment were identified as mediators between burnout and OCBs. Affective commitment demonstrated a stronger mediating effect compared to continuance commitment. The findings emphasize the importance of addressing burnout and promoting organizational commitment to enhance positive workplace behaviours among healthcare professionals.

Salminen et al (2017), did a 2-year longitudinal study on Narratives of burnout and recovery from an agency perspective. They utilized a mixed-methods approach to investigate the recovery process from burnout, involving 4 participants from a national rehabilitation course. Data collection methods included semi-structured interviews, electronic questionnaires, and the use of standardized burnout assessment tools. Results indicated that personal agency, participation in the rehabilitation course, and supervisor support were crucial factors influencing recovery. The narratives highlighted the heterogeneity of burnout experiences and emphasized the interplay between individual effort, external support systems, and life circumstances. Methodological considerations included triangulation of data sources and researcher perspectives to enhance validity and reliability.

Andrade et al. (2017), studied The Effects of Work Routine and Professional Satisfaction on Burnout among High-School Teachers. Data from 100 teachers were collected using the Maslach Burnout Inventory-ED, revealing high levels of burnout among teachers with long work routines and lower professional satisfaction. Factors such as age, time of experience, and weekly work hours were associated with increased burnout risk, highlighting the importance of addressing work-related stressors and promoting policies to support teacher well-being in the education system.

Bilal and Ahmed (2017), studied Organizational Structure as a Determinant of Job Burnout. 185 nurses were surveyed. Results found that factors like participation in decision making and promotional opportunities were associated with lower burnout levels, while formalization contributed to burnout. Interestingly, integration showed no significant relationship with burnout. Supervisors experienced higher burnout levels compared to non-supervisors. Control variables like gender and religion had no significant impact on burnout, except for supervisory status. The study highlights the importance of organizational factors in addressing nurse burnout and calls for further research to explore different dimensions of burnout and replicate findings in other hospital settings.

Day, Crown and Ivany (2017), studied Organisational change and employee burnout: The moderating effects of support and job control. They used a sample of 202 Canadian health-care staff undergoing significant organisational change. Results indicated that perceptions of organisational change stressors were positively associated with higher levels of burnout, encompassing exhaustion, cynicism, and professional efficacy. Interestingly, supervisor support exhibited a mitigating effect, particularly in reducing cynicism, even after controlling for the influence of change stressors. Moreover, job control emerged as a significant predictor of burnout, independently contributing to its manifestation. Supervisor support further acted as a buffer against the negative impact of change stressors, particularly on exhaustion and cynicism. Additionally, job control played a moderating role, attenuating the relationship between change stressors and professional efficacy, suggesting its protective function in maintaining this aspect of employee well-being amidst organisational transitions.

Heinemann and Heinemann (2017), studied Burnout Research: Emergence and Scientific Investigation of a Contested Diagnosis. The methodology employed for analysing the scientific literature on burnout involved a three-step approach: firstly, identifying medical and psychological research articles on burnout through a literature search in the PubMed database; secondly, categorizing and coding the abstracts of these articles using NVivo 10 software to map trends and themes in burnout research over 38 years; and thirdly, conducting both descriptive statistical analysis and qualitative interpretation. The quantitative analysis reveals a significant increase in scientific interest in burnout since the late 1980s, coinciding with societal concerns regarding mental health, although burnout research faces challenges such as definitional ambiguity and minimal consideration of social factors, calling for broader theoretical reflection and interdisciplinary collaboration. This analysis underscores the complex construction of burnout over the past four decades, characterized by

a lack of consensus on diagnosis and a tendency for individualized rather than societal perspectives, necessitating a critical examination of the syndrome and its implications within both clinical and societal contexts.

Burgut et al. (2016), explored Dispositional resistance to change and emotional exhaustion: moderating effects at the work-unit level. They adopt a trait activation approach and investigate the moderating effects of perceived organizational support and informational team climate at the work-unit level. With 709 individuals using a longitudinal design spanning 30 work units, multilevel analyses show that dispositional resistance to change and emotional exhaustion are positively correlated over time. Additionally, the study finds that perceived lack of organizational support and a high informational team climate strengthen this relationship. The findings suggest the importance of providing coaching and training programs to support employees who exhibit high resistance to change, while organizational development strategies should consider internal contextual factors that can influence change management processes.

Christy et al. (2016), explored Unexpected effects of mortality salience and personal need for structure on belief in a true self. In two studies, they investigated the hypothesis that mortality salience (MS) would increase belief in a true self, particularly among individuals high in personal need for structure (PNS). Contrary to expectations, the results revealed an unexpected pattern. While PNS moderated the effect of MS on belief in a true self, individuals high in PNS were actually less likely to derogate the author of an essay challenging the existence of a true self (Study 1) and less likely to endorse items assessing explicit belief in the true self (Study 2) following MS. These findings contradict existing theory and evidence, suggesting a novel direction for future research. Additionally, there were no main effects of MS on general positive affect (PA) or general negative affect (NA) in either study, and controlling for PA and NA did not alter the reported results. Self-esteem (SE) did not moderate the predicted MS × PNS effects, nor was it affected by the MS manipulation or the MS × PNS interaction. Furthermore, true-self beliefs and SE were empirically independent of each other. Although participants also completed items on the origins and moral nature of the true self, these measures were considered secondary and did not show the same interaction effects observed with belief in the true self.

Guo et al (2016), studied Structural empowerment, job stress and burnout of nurses in China. 1002 nurses employed at tertiary-level hospitals were the subjects of an investigation using the CWEQ-II, job stressors, and MBI questionnaires. Results indicated high levels of exhaustion in emotional exhaustion (EE) and personal accomplishment (PA) domains, with moderate levels in depersonalization (DP). Workload and time pressure were identified as major stressors. Significant correlations were found among structural empowerment, job stressors, and burnout levels. Structural empowerment demonstrated significant influence on job stressors and burnout, while job stressors also influenced burnout. Structural equation modelling supported the relationship between structural empowerment, reduced job stress, and lower burnout levels.

Majer, Beasley and Jason (2016), explored the relationship between Suicide Attempts and Personal Need for Structure Among Ex-Offenders. They employed hierarchical logistic regression to examine the predictive value of personal need for structure (PNS) and other variables on suicide attempts among ex-offenders with substance use disorders. They found that personal need for structure (PNS) and prior psychiatric hospitalizations were significant predictors of suicide attempts among ex-offenders with substance use disorders. Specifically, individuals with higher PNS scores were more likely to have attempted suicide, indicating a link between cognitive rigidity and suicide risk. This finding underscores the importance of considering cognitive factors in suicide risk assessment and intervention strategies for this population. Additionally, substance use did not emerge as a significant predictor of suicide attempts, highlighting the distinct role of cognitive processes, particularly PNS, in understanding suicide behaviour among ex-offenders with substance use disorders.

Maslach and Leiter (2016), explored the burnout experience: recent research and its implications for psychiatry. Initially focused on human service occupations like healthcare, research has identified unique stressors in psychiatry, such as challenging client interactions and violence. Measures like the Maslach Burnout Inventory (MBI) emerged to comprehensively assess burnout, distinguishing it from mere exhaustion, with modifications like occupation-neutral versions. Engagement emerged as a positive counterpart, and conceptual models shifted towards imbalance theories like the Job Demands-Resources (JD-R) model. Organizational risk factors like workload and social relationships play crucial roles, with burnout correlating with negative outcomes and impacting colleagues.

Svecova and Pavlovicova (2016), explored Screening the Personal Need for the Structure and solving word problems with fractions. 113 students from Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra, Slovakia were involved for the data collection. Statistical analysis, including the Cochrane Q test, was employed to examine the relationship between PNS factors and mathematical knowledge about fractions. The findings revealed an inverse relationship between success in solving word problems and the need for structure, indicating that students with higher PNS scores had lower success rates. The study suggests that word problems, especially for students with high PNS scores, induce stress and uncertainty. The conclusion highlights the importance of further research into the impact of personal need for structure on mathematical competence and the potential development of interventions to address this issue in mathematics education. Future research directions include exploring the role of structure in other mathematical areas and its relation to mathematical anxiety.

Landau et al. (2015), studied Compensatory control and the appeal of a structured world. They introduced a new compensatory strategy, affirming nonspecific structure, as a response to situations that diminish perceived control. Results from a meta-analysis of 55 studies demonstrate a moderate effect size (r = .25) indicating that control reduction significantly predicts the affirmation of nonspecific structure. This finding suggests that when individuals experience a decrease in perceived control, they are inclined to seek out and prefer straightforward interpretations of their environment, even if those interpretations are unrelated to the source of control reduction or entail adverse outcomes.

Rokopčáková (2015) aimed to explore mutual relations between personal need for structure, anxiety, optimism and selfefficacy. A sample of 237 university students was chosen. Significant gender differences were found in personal need for structure, with women exhibiting higher scores in both total PNS and its subfactors. Women also reported higher levels of anxiety compared to men, while men demonstrated higher levels of self-efficacy. The relationship between personal need for structure and anxiety was more pronounced in women, particularly in response to the lack of structure. However, no significant differences were observed in the relationship between personal need for structure and self-efficacy. Additionally, optimism was negatively related to personal need for structure in women, suggesting a complex interplay between personality characteristics in predicting psychological outcomes.

Friesen et al. (2014), focused on Seeking structure in social organization: Compensatory control and the psychological advantages of hierarchy. Across six studies, they demonstrated that when individuals experience a threat to their personal control, they perceive more hierarchy in ambiguous social interactions and show increased support for hierarchies in organizational contexts and career choices. Furthermore, they investigated the psychological mechanism underlying this link from control threat to hierarchical preferences, revealing that hierarchy was perceived as more structured than equality. This perception of structure was particularly appealing to individuals high in the Personal Need for Structure (PNS), and even those low in PNS showed an increased preference for hierarchy under conditions of control threat. Importantly, when hierarchy was portrayed as less structured, its appeal diminished among individuals facing control threats. These findings suggest that the appeal of hierarchies lies in their ability to provide structure, which serves as a compensatory mechanism for individuals lacking control. This research extends existing theories of hierarchy maintenance, such as system justification and social dominance, by proposing that the need for structure may motivate hierarchy preference independently of status-based group interests or status quo rationalization.

Luchman and González-Morales (2013), did a Meta-Analytic Review of Work Characteristics Interrelationships: Demands, Control, and Support. R Results revealed negative associations between job demands and both supervisor and coworker support, while job control demonstrated positive relationships with both forms of support. Surprisingly, a significant direct relationship between job demands and control was not found. Structural equation modelling suggested that treating job control and social support as independent predictors of occupational strain and well-being aligned better with the data than assuming a shared latent factor. These findings underscore the importance of considering distinct facets of the work environment and their unique contributions to employee outcomes.

#### METHODOLOGY

Aim: to measure The Effect of Personal Need for Structure on Burnout among the youth population.

#### Research Method:

In conducting this study, the use of both online and paper-and-pen surveys to collect data from participants was involved. These surveys incorporated validated instruments, including the Maslach Burnout Inventory (MBI) developed by Maslach and the Personal Need for Structure Scale by Thompson. The MBI measured burnout across dimensions such as emotional exhaustion, depersonalization, and personal accomplishment, while the Personal Need for Structure Scale assessed individuals' preferences for structure in their environment. Prior to data collection, a comprehensive literature review was conducted to examine existing research on burnout and personal need for structure. Subsequently, correlational analysis was performed to explore the relationship between personal need for structure and burnout levels among young individuals aged 18 to 30 years. This methodology allowed for a thorough investigation of the research questions and provided valuable insights into the associations between the variables of interest.

#### Population:

The study focused on young individuals aged between 18 to 30 years, comprising primarily students enrolled in universities or young professionals from various fields. This demographic was chosen due to the transitional nature of this life stage, where individuals often experience significant academic, professional, and personal development, potentially leading to increased susceptibility to burnout.

#### Sample Size:

A total of 100 individuals participated in the study, providing a sufficiently robust dataset for analysis. The sample size was selected to ensure adequate statistical power while maintaining feasibility in data collection and analysis.

Furthermore, the sample exhibited a fairly balanced gender distribution, with 51 females and 49 males, enhancing the representativeness of the findings across gender lines.

#### Sampling Method:

To recruit participants, a combination of purposive and convenience sampling techniques was employed. This approach allowed for the intentional selection of individuals who fit the desired demographic criteria (i.e., young adults aged 18 to 30 years) while also leveraging the accessibility and practicality of convenience sampling methods.

Both online and in-person recruitment strategies were utilized to reach a diverse range of participants. Online surveys were distributed through popular platforms such as Google Forms, enabling easy access for individuals with internet connectivity. Simultaneously, in-person recruitment involved administering pen and paper questionnaires to individuals who preferred traditional survey methods or had limited access to online resources.

This hybrid approach to sampling ensured that the study captured a broad spectrum of perspectives and experiences among young individuals, thereby enhancing the generalizability and validity of the findings. By employing multiple recruitment channels, the study aimed to mitigate potential biases associated with a single method of data collection, thereby strengthening the overall robustness of the research outcomes.

Tools and Techniques for Data Collection

- 1. Maslach Burnout Inventory (MBI): The Maslach Burnout Inventory (MBI) is a widely used psychological assessment tool developed by Christina Maslach and Susan E. Jackson in 1981. It uses a 7-point Likert scale for respondents to rate their agreement with statements related to burnout. The scale ranges from 0 (never) to 6 (every day), allowing individuals to indicate the frequency or intensity of their feelings or attitudes towards burnout factors It was designed to measure burnout across various professional settings by assessing three key dimensions: emotional exhaustion, depersonalization, and personal accomplishment.
  - Emotional Exhaustion: This dimension measures feelings of being emotionally overextended and depleted of emotional resources.
  - Depersonalization: This dimension assesses the development of negative, cynical attitudes and feelings toward one's work and the recipients of one's care or service.
  - Personal Accomplishment: This dimension evaluates feelings of competence and successful achievement in one's work with people.

#### Reliability:

- Cronbach's Alpha: The MBI demonstrates good internal consistency reliability with a reported coefficient of 0.86.
- Split-half: The reported split-half coefficient is 0.57, indicating moderate internal consistency.
- Odd-Even: The odd-even coefficient is 0.92, suggesting strong consistency across different halves of the test.

#### Validity:

- Concurrent Validity: The MBI was correlated with another measure, the Personal Need for Structure (PNS) scale, resulting in coefficients ranging from 0.01 to 0.36. These coefficients indicate the degree of association between burnout and personal need for structure.
- 2. Personal Need for Structure (PNS) Scale: The Personal Need for Structure (PNS) scale was developed by Thompson, Naccarato, Parker, and Moskowitz in 1989 to assess an individual's preference for structure in their environment. The Likert scale used in the survey for the Personal Need for Structure (PNS) ranges from 1 to 5
  - Desire for Structure: This subscale measures the degree to which individuals seek structure in their surroundings.
  - Response to Lack of Structure: This subscale assesses how individuals react when they encounter situations that lack clear structure.

### Reliability:

• Studies have shown that the PNS scale possesses sufficient reliability. The Response to Lack of Structure subscale demonstrated good internal consistency with a Cronbach's alpha of .73. Test-retest reliability was also established, with a correlation coefficient of .67 for the Desire for Structure subscale and .80 for the Response to Lack of Structure subscale over a 4-week interval, indicating strong reliability.

#### Validity:

• The PNS scale has been validated across different populations and settings. The scale reflects quantitative interindividual differences in the tendency to structure information into a simplified form. The two-factor structure of the original PNS Scale was replicated in studies, providing evidence of its validity in assessing personal need for structure.

#### **RESULTS**

# 1. Correlation between Emotional Exhaustion and PNS Correlations

		PNS	EE
PNS	Pearson Correlation	1	.110
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.277
	N	100	100
EE	Pearson Correlation	.110	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.277	
	N	100	100

Based on the provided correlation table:

- The correlation coefficient between PNS and EE is 0.110. This indicates a weak positive linear relationship between the Personal Need for Structure (PNS) and Emotional Exhaustion (EE). As one variable increases, the other variable tends to increase slightly, but the relationship is not very strong.
- The significance level associated with this correlation coefficient (2-tailed) is 0.277. This suggests that there is no statistically significant correlation between PNS and EE at the conventional alpha level of 0.05. In other words, the observed correlation coefficient of 0.110 could have occurred by random chance alone and is not reliably different from zero.

# 2. Correlation between Depersonalization and PNS Correlations

		PNS	DEP
PNS	Pearson Correlation	1	218*
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.029
	N	100	100
DEP	Pearson Correlation	218*	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.029	
	N	100	100

- The correlation coefficient between PNS and DEP (Depersonalization) is -0.218. This indicates a weak negative linear relationship between PNS and DEP. As the value of one variable (PNS) increases, the value of the other variable (DEP) tends to decrease slightly, but the relationship is not very strong.
- The significance level associated with this correlation coefficient (2-tailed) is 0.029. This indicates that the correlation between PNS and DEP is statistically significant at the 0.05 level. In other words, it is unlikely that the observed correlation coefficient of -0.218 occurred by random chance alone. The asterisk (\*) next to the correlation coefficient indicates statistical significance.

# 3. Correlation between Personal Accomplishment and PNS Correlations

		PNS	PA
PNS	Pearson Correlation	1	.285**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.004
	N	100	100
PA	Pearson Correlation	.285**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.004	
	N	100	100

- The correlation coefficient between PNS and PA (Personal accomplishment) is 0.285. This indicates a moderate positive linear relationship between PNS activity and Physical Activity. As the value of one variable (PNS) increases, the value of the other variable (PA) tends to increase as well, and this relationship is moderately strong.
- The significance level associated with this correlation coefficient (2-tailed) is 0.004. This indicates that the correlation between PNS and PA is statistically significant at the 0.01 level. In other words, it is highly unlikely that the observed correlation coefficient of 0.285 occurred by random chance alone. The double asterisks (\*\*) next to the correlation coefficient indicate statistical significance at the 0.01 level.

# 4. Correlation between overall burnout and PNS Correlations

		PNS	MBI
PNS	Pearson Correlation	1	.111
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.272
	N	100	100
MBI	Pearson Correlation	.111	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.272	
	N	100	100

- The correlation coefficient between PNS and MBI (Maslach Burnout Inventory) is 0.111. This indicates a weak positive linear relationship between PNS activity and occupational burnout. However, the strength of this relationship is very weak.
- The significance level associated with this correlation coefficient (2-tailed) is 0.272. This indicates that the correlation between PNS and MBI is not statistically significant at the conventional alpha level of 0.05. In other words, the observed correlation coefficient of 0.111 could have occurred by random chance alone.

#### **DISCUSSION**

The investigation of burnout among people, particularly with regards to individual need for structure (PNS), gives significant bits of knowledge into the complicated exchange between individual attributes and mental prosperity. Burnout, described by emotional exhaustion, depersonalization, and diminished individual achievement, is an unavoidable issue influencing different parts of people's lives, including their expert and individual spaces.

The findings from this study propose that while there is a weak positive connection between personal weariness and PNS, the relationship isn't statistically significant. This shows that people with more elevated levels of PNS may not be guaranteed to encounter higher emotional exhaustion. In any case, it's fundamental for note that the shortfall of statistical significance doesn't limit the likely impact of PNS on emotional exhaustion completely. Further examination with larger sample sizes could clarify this relationship all the more successfully.

This study uncovers a negative correlation relationship between depersonalization and PNS, suggesting that people with more significant levels of PNS are less inclined to encounter depersonalization. This tracking down highlights the significance of individual contrasts in adapting to stressors and keeping a feeling of individual commitment with one's work or climate. People with major areas of strength for structure might be more skilled at exploring testing circumstances without turning to separation or profound withdrawal.

Besides, the study features a huge positive relationship between personal achievement and PNS, proposing that people with more elevated levels of PNS will generally encounter more prominent individual achievement. This finding lines up with past exploration demonstrating that an organized climate can furnish people with a feeling of clearness and skill, prompting expanded pride and fulfilment.

In any case, it's vital to decipher these discoveries inside the more extensive setting of burnout research. While the review offers significant bits of knowledge into the connection among PNS and explicit elements of burnout, like depersonalization and personal achievement, the general connection among PNS and burnout gives off an impression of being nuanced and complex. The absence of a critical connection between burnout and PNS highlights the intricacy of burnout as a develop impacted by different variables past individual characteristics alone.

### **Implications:**

These discoveries have a few ramifications for understanding and tending to burnout in various settings, especially in hierarchical settings. Most importantly, perceiving individual contrasts in survival techniques, like the requirement for structure, can illuminate customized mediations pointed toward forestalling and moderating burnout. Associations might consider integrating techniques that take special care of people's fluctuating requirements for lucidity and normal, for example, giving clear rules, steady management, and potential open doors for ability improvement.

Also, understanding the connection among PNS and explicit components of burnout, like depersonalization and personal achievement, can direct designated intercessions customized to address these particular parts of burnout. For instance, mediations zeroing in on improving hierarchical help and encouraging a feeling of individual viability might be especially gainful for people with low degrees of PNS who are more inclined to depersonalization.

Besides, the discoveries underscore the significance of advancing a steady workplace that recognizes and obliges individual contrasts in adapting to stressors. By fostering a culture that values employees' psychological well-being and provides resources for managing stress effectively, organizations can cultivate resilience and reduce the risk of burnout among their workforce.

### Limitations:

In spite of the significant insights provided by this study, a few limitations ought to be recognized. The review's cross-sectional, first and foremost, plan restricts the capacity to deduce causality or fleeting connections between factors. A deeper understanding of the dynamic interaction between burnout and PNS could be obtained by longitudinal studies that track individuals' experiences with both over time.

Furthermore, the study's sample size may limit the generalizability of findings to broader populations. Recruiting larger and more diverse samples would allow for a better understanding of how individual differences in PNS manifest across different demographic groups and occupational settings.

Finally, the study's focus on youth burnout may limit the generalizability of findings to other age groups. Future research should explore the relationship between PNS and burnout across the lifespan to identify developmental differences and inform age-appropriate interventions.

At last, the review's emphasis on youth burnout may restrict the generalizability of discoveries to other age gatherings. Future exploration ought to investigate the connection among PNS and burnout across the life expectancy to recognize formative contrasts and illuminate age-proper intercessions.

All in all, while this study gives significant experiences into the connection between private requirement for structure and burnout among youth, further examination is expected to explain the hidden components and suggestions for mediation. By tending to these constraints and expanding after existing information, scientists and experts can keep on propelling comprehension we might interpret burnout and foster powerful methodologies for advancing mental prosperity in assorted populaces.

#### **CONCLUSION**

This study aimed to explore the relationship between personal need for structure (PNS) and burnout among youth.

While a weak positive correlation was found between emotional exhaustion and PNS, it wasn't statistically significant. However, there was a significant negative correlation between depersonalization and PNS, indicating that individuals with higher PNS were less likely to experience detachment. Additionally, a significant positive correlation was observed between personal accomplishment and PNS, suggesting that individuals with higher PNS tend to experience greater feelings of achievement.

Despite the study's limitations, such as its cross-sectional design and reliance on self-report measures, the findings highlight the importance of accommodating individual differences in coping mechanisms in organizational settings to mitigate burnout risk. By recognizing and supporting individuals' need for structure, organizations can promote psychological well-being and resilience among their workforce. Further research with longitudinal designs and larger, more diverse samples is needed to deepen our understanding of the relationship between PNS and burnout among youth.

#### REFERENCES

- (1) Andrade, N. C. L., Pedrosa, G. F., Lobo, I. L. B., & Bicalho, C. C. F. (2017). The effects of work routine and professional satisfaction on burnout among high-school teachers. *International Journal of Humanities and Social Science Invention*, 6(4), 50-55. <a href="https://www.researchgate.net/publication/315843153">https://www.researchgate.net/publication/315843153</a> The Effects of Work Routine and Professional S atisfaction on Burnout among High-School Teachers
- (2) Bilal, A., & Ahmed, H. M. (2016). Organizational structure as a determinant of job burnout. *Workplace Health & Safety*, 65(3), 118–128. https://doi.org/10.1177/2165079916662050
- (3) Bethea, A., Samanta, D., Kali, M., Lucente, F. C., & Richmond, B. K. (2020). The impact of burnout syndrome on practitioners working within rural healthcare systems. *American Journal of Emergency Medicine*, 38(3), 582–588. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajem.2019.07.009
- (4) Brandstätter, V., Job, V., & Schulze, B. (2016). Motivational Incongruence and Well-Being at the Workplace: Person-Job fit, job burnout, and Physical symptoms. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 7. https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2016.01153
- (5) Christy, A. G., Sanders, C. S., Vess, M., Routledge, C., & Schlegel, R. J. (2017). The true self and existential structure? Unexpected effects of mortality salience and personal need for structure on belief in a true self. *Self and Identity*, 16(3), 335-352. https://doi.org/10.1080/15298868.2016.1269669
- (6) Day, A., Crown, S. N., & Ivany, M. (2017). Organisational change and employee burnout: The moderating effects of support and job control. *Safety Science*, 100, 4–12. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssci.2017.03.004">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssci.2017.03.004</a>
- (7) De Souza, R. O., Guilherme, F. R., Elias, R. G. M., Reis, L. L. D., De Souza, O. a. G., Ferrer, M., Santos, S. L. C. D., & Osiecki, R. (2021). Associated determinants between evidence of burnout, physical activity, and health behaviors of university students. *Frontiers in Sports and Active Living*, 3. <a href="https://doi.org/10.3389/fspor.2021.733309">https://doi.org/10.3389/fspor.2021.733309</a>
- (8) Frick, S., Van Der Meij, L., Smolders, K., Demerouti, E., & Kort, Y. (2023). The effect of time and day of the week on burnout-related experiences: an experience sampling study. *European Journal of Work and Organizational Psychology*, 1–18. https://doi.org/10.1080/1359432x.2023.2266874
- (9) Friesen, J. P., Kay, A. C., Eibach, R. P., & Galinsky, A. D. (2014). Seeking structure in social organization: Compensatory control and the psychological advantages of hierarchy. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 106(4), 590–609. https://doi.org/10.1037/a0035620

- (10) Guo, J., Chen, J., Fu, J., Ge, X., Chen, M., & Liu, Y. (2016). Structural empowerment, job stress and burnout of nurses in China. *Applied Nursing Research*, 31, 41–45. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apnr.2015.12.007
- (11) Hosseinabadi, M. B., Ebrahimi, M. H., Khanjani, N., Biganeh, J., Mohammadi, S., & Abdolahfard, M. (2019). The effects of amplitude and stability of circadian rhythm and occupational stress on burnout syndrome and job dissatisfaction among irregular shift working nurses. *Journal of Clinical Nursing*, 28(9–10), 1868–1878. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1111/jocn.14778">https://doi.org/10.1111/jocn.14778</a>
- (12) Heinemann, L. V., & Heinemann, T. (2017). Burnout research. SAGE Open, 7(1), 215824401769715. https://doi.org/10.1177/2158244017697154
- (13) Kokkinos, C. M. (2007). Job stressors, personality and burnout in primary school teachers. *British Journal of Educational Psychology*, 77(1), 229–243. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1348/000709905x90344">https://doi.org/10.1348/000709905x90344</a>
- (14) Khan, S., Jehan, N., Shaheen, S., & Ali, G. (2018). Effect of burnout on organizational citizenship behaviors: mediating role of affective and continuance commitment. In Bacha Khan University, Charsadda, Abdul Wali Khan University, Mardan, General Head Quarter, Rawalpindi, & The University of Agriculture, Peshawar, *Abasyn*Journal

  of

  Social Sciences. http://ajss.abasyn.edu.pk/admineditor/specialissue/papers/AICTBM-2018-11.pdf
- (15) Landau, M. J., Kay, A. C., & Whitson, J. (2015a). Compensatory control and the appeal of a structured world. *Psychological Bulletin*, *141*(3), 694–722. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1037/a0038703">https://doi.org/10.1037/a0038703</a>
- (16) Luchman, J. N., & González-Morales, M. G. (2013). Demands, control, and support: A meta-analytic review of work characteristics interrelationships. *Journal of Occupational Health Psychology*, *18*(1), 37–52. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1037/a0030541">https://doi.org/10.1037/a0030541</a>
- (17) Majer, J. M., Beasley, C., & Jason, L. A. (2016). Suicide attempts and personal need for structure among Ex-Offenders. *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology*, 61(3), 334–346. https://doi.org/10.1177/0306624x15595981
- (18) Maslach, C., & Leiter, M. P. (2016). Understanding the burnout experience: recent research and its implications for psychiatry. *World Psychiatry*, 15(2), 103–111. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1002/wps.20311">https://doi.org/10.1002/wps.20311</a>
- (19) Noordewier, M. K., & Rutjens, B. T. (2021). Personal need for structure shapes the perceived impact of reduced personal control. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 170, 110478. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.paid.2020.110478
- (20) Obschonka, M., Pavez, I., Kautonen, T., Kibler, E., Salmela-Aro, K., & Wincent, J. (2023). Job burnout and work engagement in entrepreneurs: How the psychological utility of entrepreneurship drives healthy engagement. *Journal of Business Venturing*, 38(2), 106272. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jbusvent.2022.106272">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jbusvent.2022.106272</a>
- (21) Prokopcakova, A. (2015). PERSONAL NEED FOR STRUCTURE, ANXIETY, SELFEFFICACY AND OPTIMISM. *Studia Psychologica*, *57*(2), 147–162. https://doi.org/10.21909/sp.2015.02.690
- (22) Roster, C. A., & Ferrari, J. R. (2020). Time is on My Side—or Is It? Assessing How Perceived Control of Time and Procrastination Influence Emotional Exhaustion on the Job. *Behavioral Sciences*, 10(6), 98. <a href="https://doi.org/10.3390/bs10060098">https://doi.org/10.3390/bs10060098</a>
- (23) Salminen, S., Andreou, E., Holma, J., Pekkonen, M., & Mäkikangas, A. (2017). Narratives of burnout and recovery from an agency perspective: A two-year longitudinal study. *Burnout Research*, 7, 1–9. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.burn.2017.08.001

- (24) Siu, O. L., Cooper, C. L., & Phillips, D. (2014). Intervention studies on enhancing work well-being, reducing burnout, and improving recovery experiences among Hong Kong health care workers and teachers. *International Journal of Stress Management*, 21(1), 69–84. https://doi.org/10.1037/a0033291
- (25) Slowiak, J. M., & Jay, G. M. (2023). Burnout among behavior analysts in times of crisis: The roles of work demands, professional social support, and psychological flexibility. *Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders*, 105, 102185. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rasd.2023.102185">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rasd.2023.102185</a>
- (26) Švecová, V., & Pavlovičová, G. (2016). Screening the Personal Need for the Structure and solving word problems with fractions. *SpringerPlus*, 5(1). <a href="https://doi.org/10.1186/s40064-016-2285-3">https://doi.org/10.1186/s40064-016-2285-3</a>
- (27) Turgut, S., Michel, A., Rothenhöfer, L. M., & Sonntag, K. (2016). Dispositional resistance to change and emotional exhaustion: moderating effects at the work-unit level. *European Journal of Work and Organizational Psychology*, 25(5), 735–750. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1080/1359432x.2016.1157583">https://doi.org/10.1080/1359432x.2016.1157583</a>
- (28) Woo, T., Ho, R., Tang, A., & Tam, W. W. S. (2020). Global prevalence of burnout symptoms among nurses: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Journal of Psychiatric Research*, 123, 9–20. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpsychires.2019.12.015