

## EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE AND GENDER DIFFERENCIES

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### **Abstract**

The study aims to present a relatively new concept of Intelligence, the construct of Emotional Intelligence by providing a focus on gender perspective. It seeks to treat and examine superficially gender differences within the Emotional Intelligence Construct. Great number of studies in the field of Emotional Intelligence, indicate that the this new construct of Intelligence, (EI), operates within the social context, therefore, the examination of socially relevant constructs is perceived to be crucial for personal and social context. It has been hypothesised that there might be slight gender differencies related to the specific scores of Emotioan Intelligence components that men and women have tendencies to exhibit. The study provides a systematic review of several studies in the field of EI, by combining pertinent qualitative and quantitative study data to develop a more common conclusion of the main findings, by adding a gender perspective as well. The study is based in the ability based model of Emotional Intelligence. Data were gathered through using a MSCEIT (Mayer, Salovey and Caruso - Emotional Intelligence Test) and and Multidimensional Scale on Perceived Social Support. A t- test was applied in order to examine gender differencies throughout the components of Emotional Intelligence. The study in itself was not directly destinated to measure these differencies, but rather to highlight the importance of gender perspective of Emotional Intelligence as well, wich was supported by findings of other relevant studies. It aims to offer a platform for interaction on the importance and further need for future studies in this area.

**Keywords:** *Emotional intelligence, gender differences, identification and managing emotions, perceived social support*