



ADVERSE PARENTING, PERFECTIONISM, AND DEPRESSION IN CHILDREN

Andy Kim, Undergraduate BA Psych Hons 2020



ADVERSE PARENTING

Authoritarian

- Harsh and punitive

Psychological control

- Withdraws love and induces guilt

Neglectful Parenting

- Uninvolved and distant



PERFECTIONISM

Self-oriented perfectionism

- I need to be perfect for me

Socially prescribed perfectionism

- I need to be perfect for others

Self promotion

- I need to show that I am perfect

Nondisplay of imperfections

- I need hide my shortcomings

Nondisclosure of imperfections

- I can never admit my shortcomings

DEPRESSION

As indicated by depressive symptom severity



PREVIOUS FINDINGS

Adverse parenting predicts perfectionism in children

- Authoritarian => trait perfectionism, perfectionistic self-presentation, feelings of doubt and concerns over mistakes
- Psychological control => all perfectionism components
- Neglectful parenting => Conflicting findings!



PREVIOUS FINDINGS

Adverse parenting predicts depression in children

Authoritarian => Depressive symptoms, avoidant coping, internalizing problems

Psychological Control => Depressive symptoms

Neglectful parenting => Doubts about actions



PREVIOUS FINDINGS

Perfectionism predicts **depression** in children

Socially Prescribed Perfectionism => Depression, life stress, self-harm

Self-Oriented Perfectionism => Depression



RECAP

Adverse parenting predicts **perfectionism** in children

Adverse parenting predicts **depression** in children

Perfectionism predicts **depression** in children



DIRECTIONALITY?

Adverse parenting → Perfectionism → Depression

or...

Adverse parenting → Depression → Perfectionism

Still unclear in the current literature!



GOAL OF THE PRESENT STUDY

To better understand the temporal relationship between adverse parenting, perfectionism, and depression.

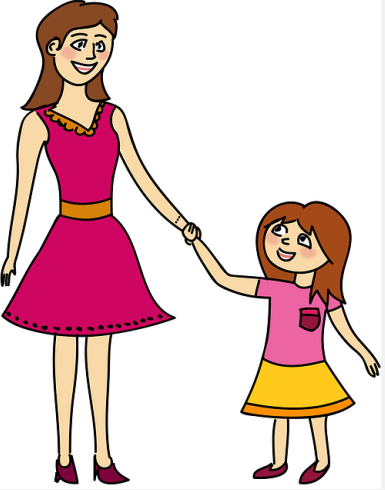


RESEARCH QUESTION

- 1) Does perfectionism mediate the relationship between adverse parenting and depression?
- 2) Does depression mediate the relationship between adverse parenting and perfectionism?

METHODS

Time 1

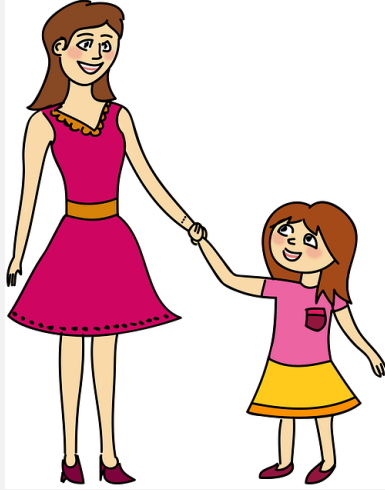


Adverse parenting
Perfectionism
Depression

1 year



Time 2



Adverse parenting
Perfectionism
Depression

N = 31 parent-child dyads
26 females (83.9%)
Age (mean = 48.1, SD = 5.55)
Predominantly Caucasian (60%)
Average income (> \$100,000)

21 girls (64.5%)
Age (mean = 12.83, SD = 1.69)
Predominantly Caucasian (48.4%)
12.9% had a mental disorder

MEASURES: ADVERSE PARENTING

	Authoritarian	Psychological Control	Neglectful parenting
Measures	PSDQ-SV	DAPCS	POPS-C
Report	Parent-report	Child-report	Child-report
Example items	“Explodes in anger towards our child”	“Will make me feel guilty when I leave home permanently”	“Some mothers/fathers [always] ask their children what they did in school that day”
Scale	5-point	5-point	Frequency (<i>never, sometimes, usually, to always</i>)

MEASURES: PERFECTIONISM

	Self-oriented perfectionism	Socially Prescribed Perfectionism	Perfectionistic Self-Promotion	Nondisplay of imperfections	Nondisclosure of imperfections
Measures	CAPS	CAPS	PSPS-JR	PSPS-JR	PSPS-JR
Example items	“When I do something, it has to be perfect”	“My teachers expect my work to be perfect”	“I always have to look perfect”	“I think a lot about mistakes that I have made in front of other people”	“I do not let other people know when I fail at something”

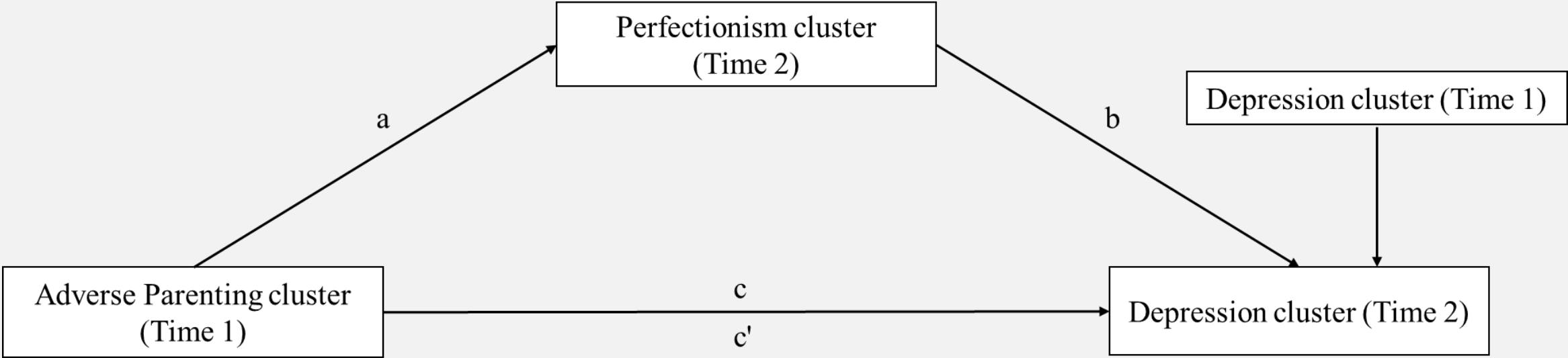
MEASURES: DEPRESSION

	Depression
Measures	PHQ-9
Example items	“Little interest or pleasure in doing things”
Scales	0 (not at all) to 3 (nearly every day)



RESULTS (AGGREGATE LEVEL)

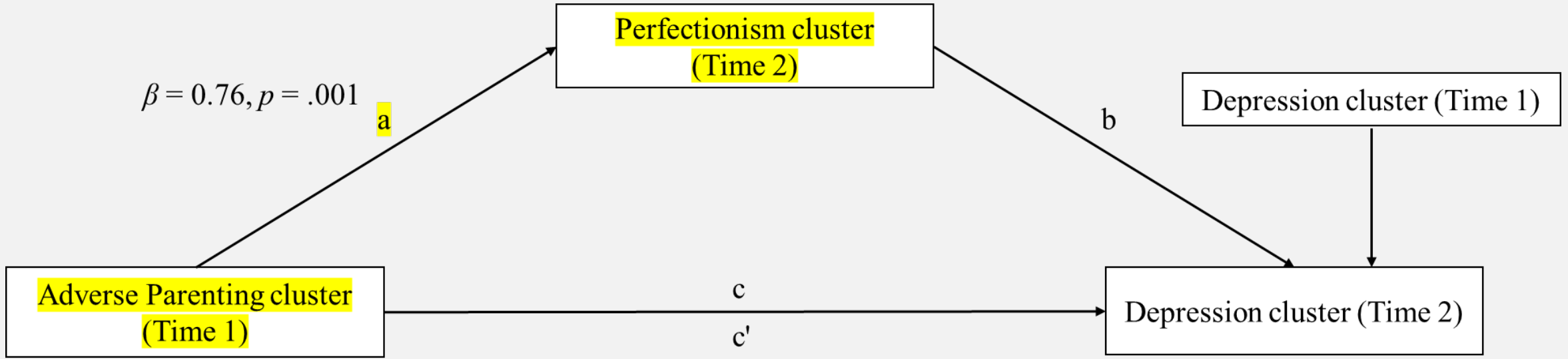
Is **perfectionism** a mediator variable between adverse parenting and depression?





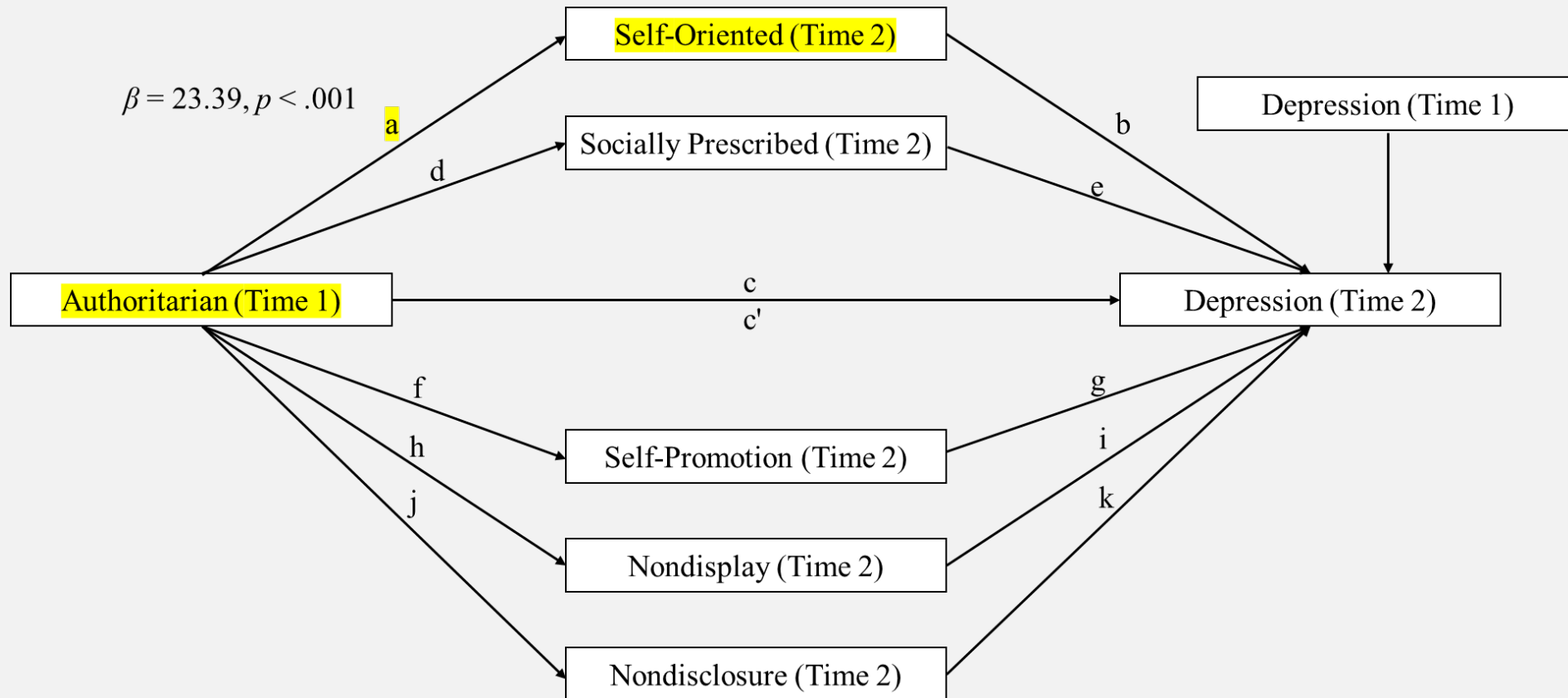
RESULTS (AGGREGATE LEVEL)

No mediation found



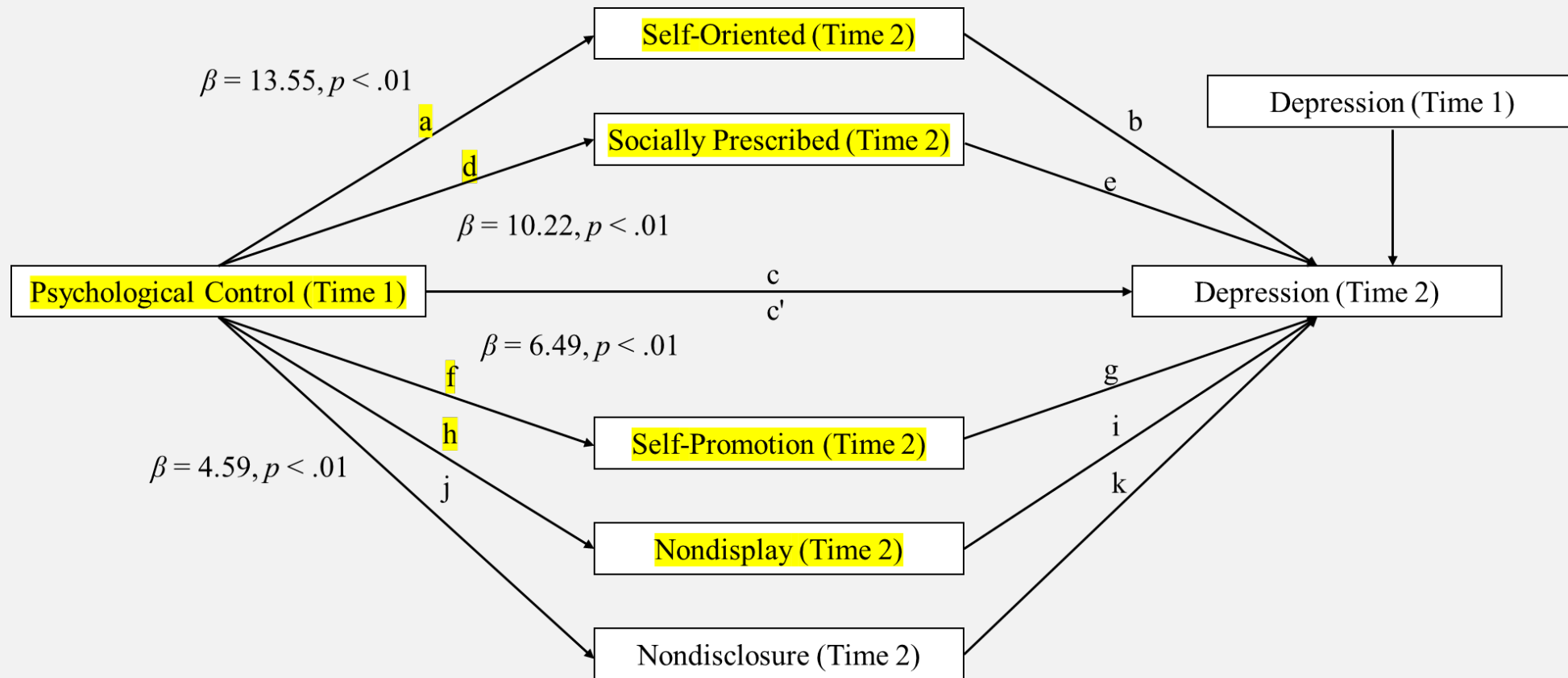
RESULTS (INDIVIDUAL LEVEL)

Authoritarian



RESULTS (INDIVIDUAL LEVEL)

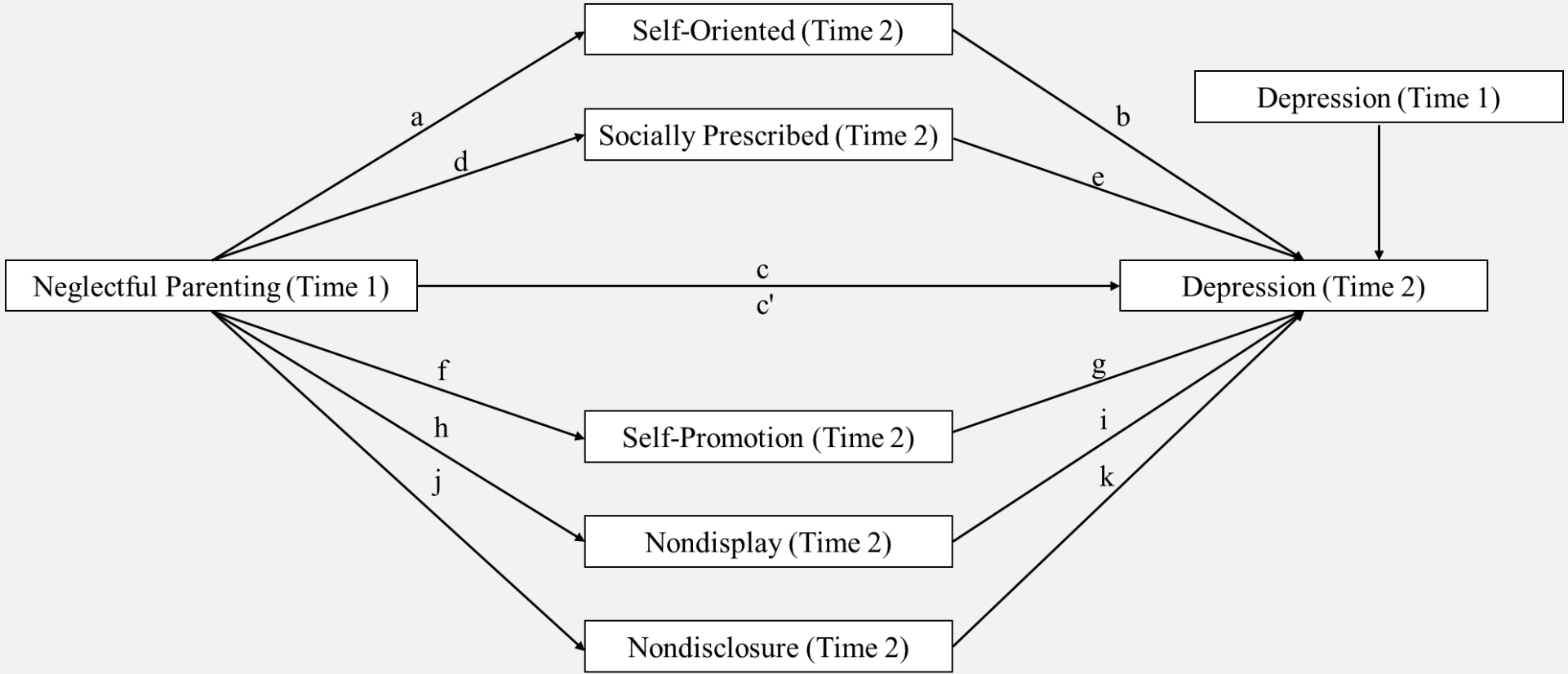
Psychological control





RESULTS (INDIVIDUAL LEVEL)

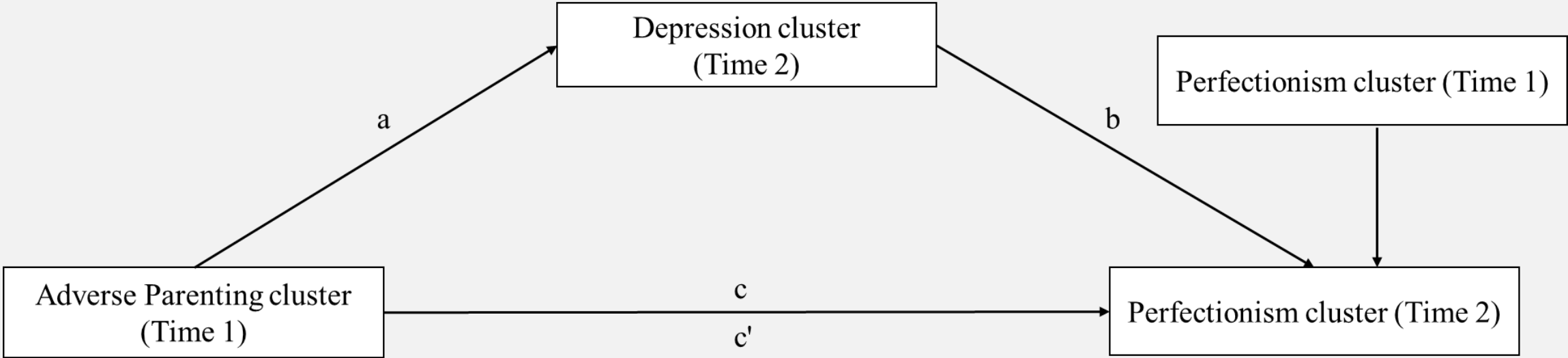
Neglectful parenting





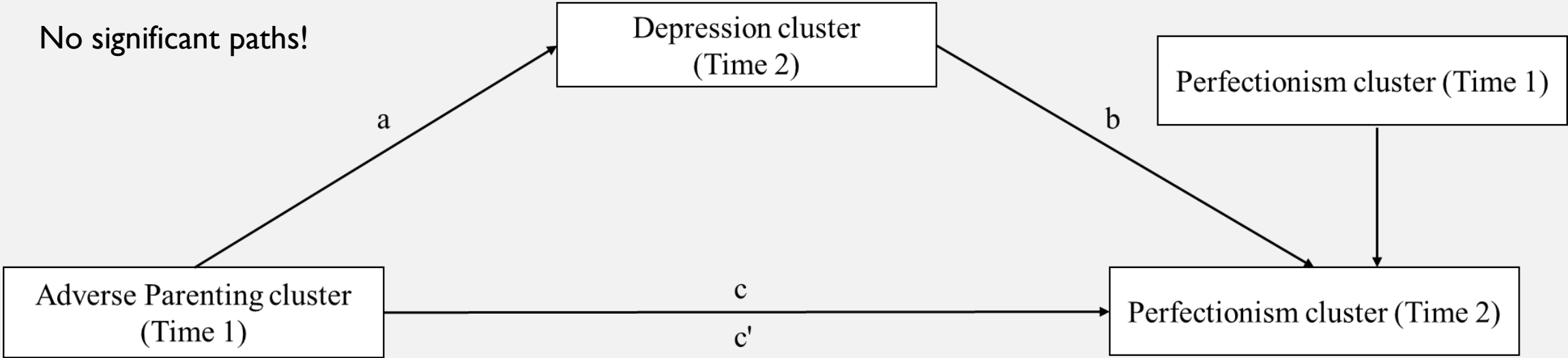
RESULTS (AGGREGATE LEVEL)

Is **depression** a mediator variable between adverse parenting and perfectionism?



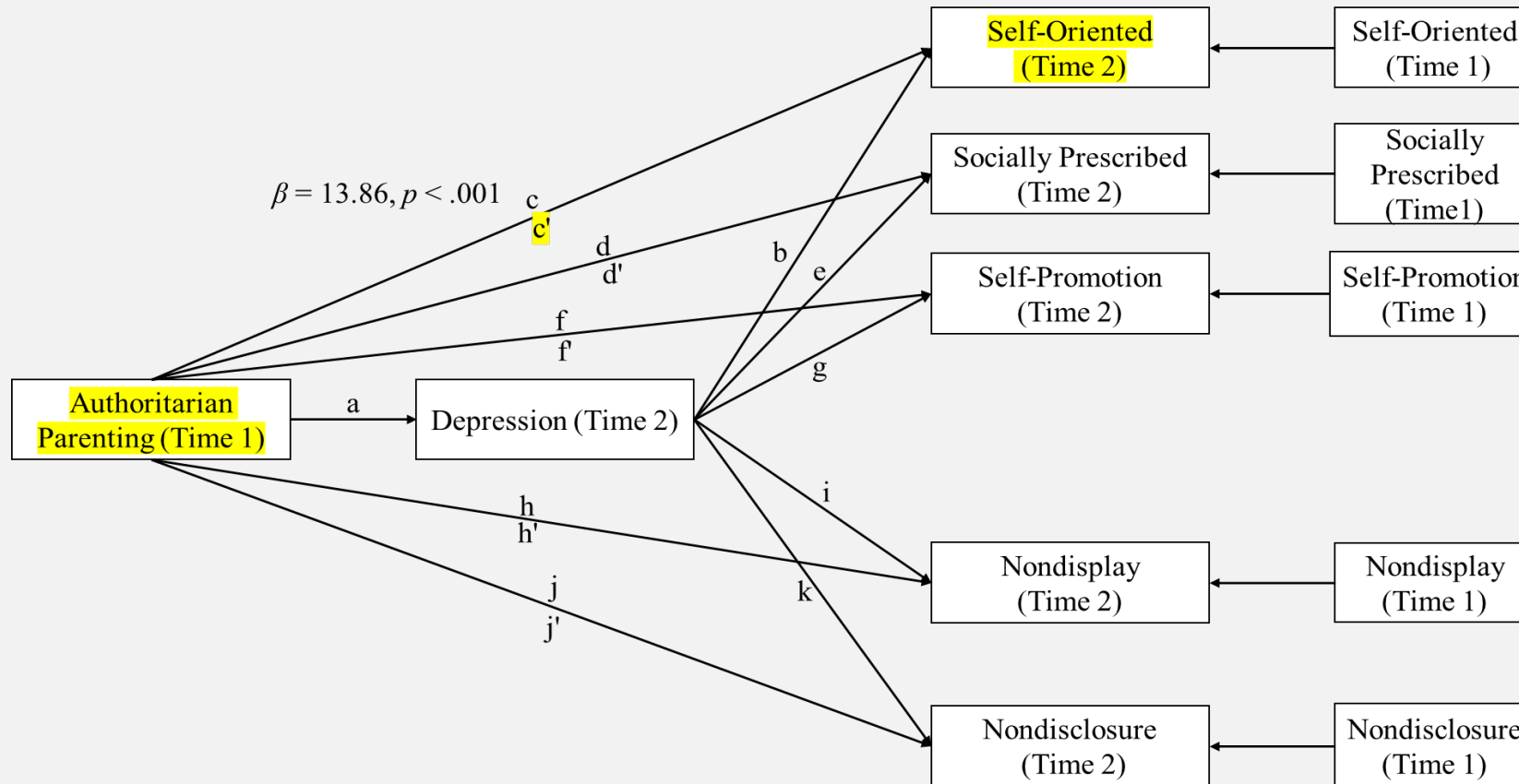


RESULTS (AGGREGATE LEVEL)



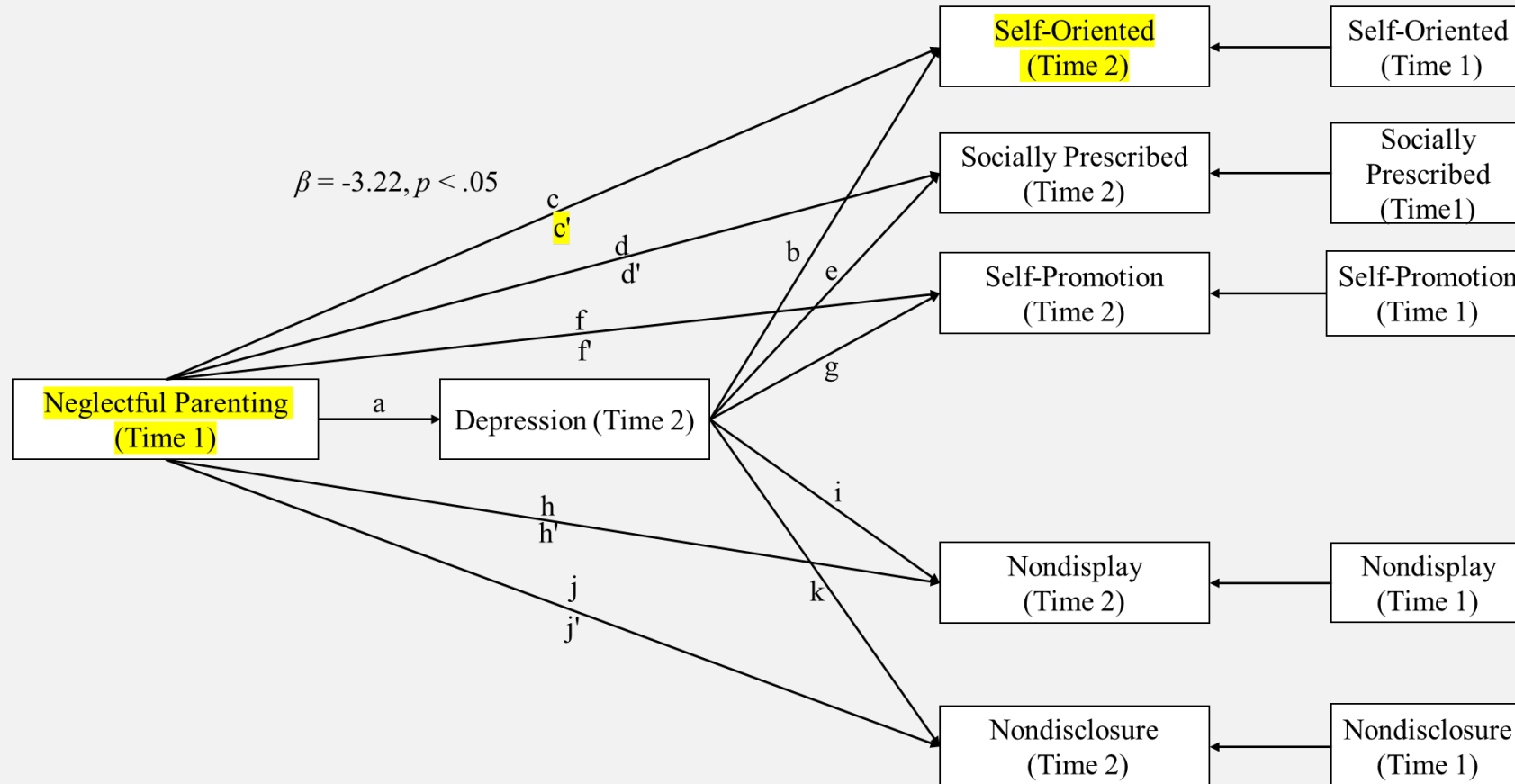
RESULTS (INDIVIDUAL LEVEL)

Authoritarian



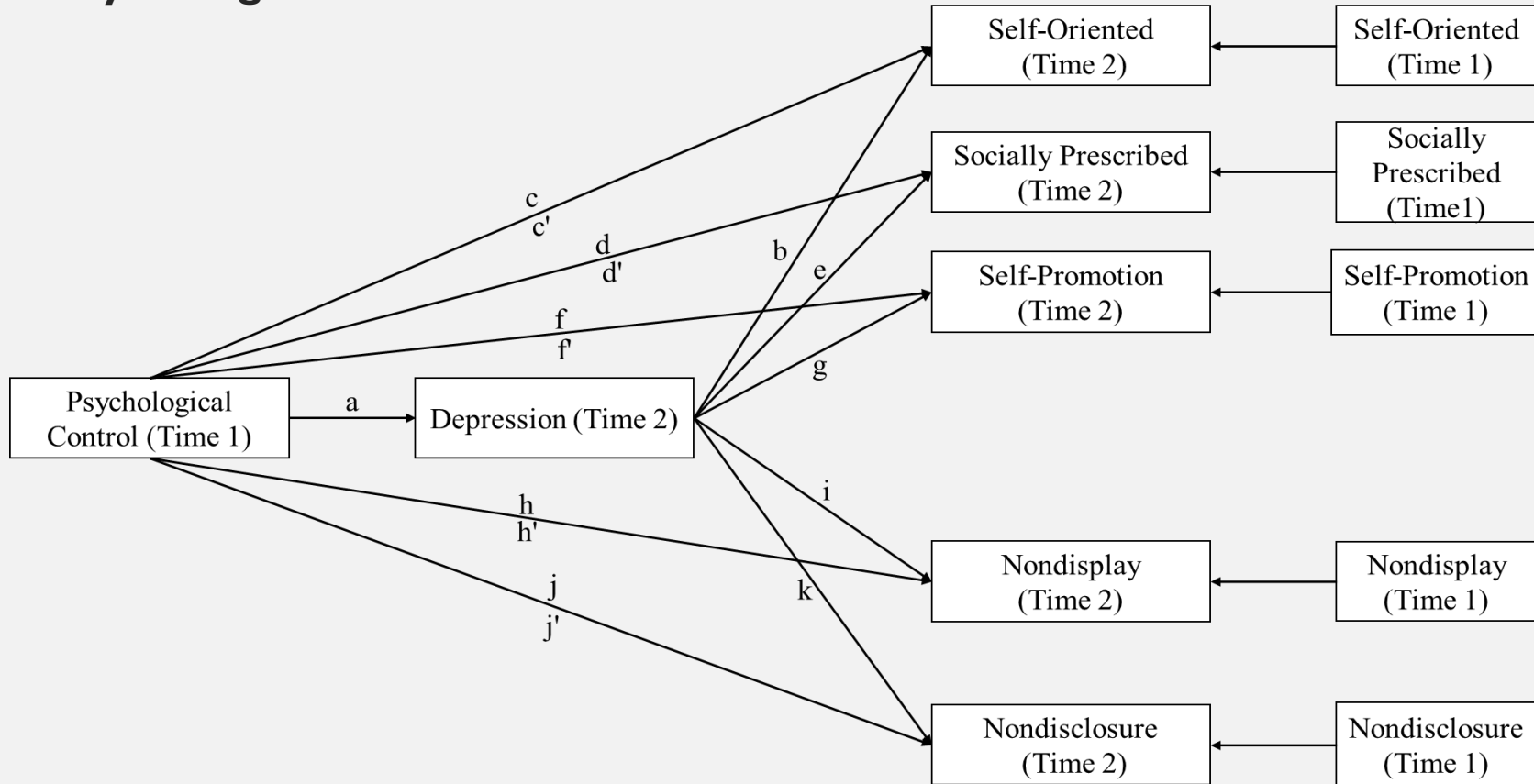
RESULTS (INDIVIDUAL LEVEL)

Neglectful parenting



RESULTS (INDIVIDUAL LEVEL)

Psychological Control





DISCUSSION

Adverse parenting predicted perfectionism

No support for any mediational paths!

Small sample size (N = 31).

Clinical Implications