

Narcissism gains popularity in psychological research. Most often, it is defined as a personality trait that varies among people. The core characteristic of narcissism is self-importance, entitlement and antagonism. Numerous recent studies explored how narcissism relates to social functioning and emotional experiences, however, the research on the origins of narcissism is scarce. One of the studies revealed that narcissism among children was associated with parental overvaluation, that is when parents believed their child is special and entitled for more than other children. In other words, they perceive their children as God's gift to humanity.

In the current project, we test more specific beliefs of parents – beliefs about their children's intelligence. Previous studies indicated that unrealistic and overly positive evaluation of intelligence is an important source of self-esteem and positive feelings among people with high narcissism. Additionally, experimental studies revealed that positive information about one's intelligence increases a momentary state narcissism. We hypothesize that constant parental overestimation of their children's intelligence will lead to higher narcissism of the children. In a longitudinal study we will test the relationship between parental beliefs, narcissism of their children as well as actual intelligence of their children. Parents' beliefs about intelligence of their children might be one of the sources of narcissism.