### Abstract

Introduction: Mathematics anxiety involves increased physiological reactivity, negative cognitions avoidance behavior, and substandard performance when presented with math stimuli. The aim of the present research was to compare the mathematics anxiety based on self efficacy and birth order in high school students.

Method and Materials: This descriptive-comparative causal study was performed on 300 (210 girl-90 boy) high school students selected from Sahneh city, participating were chosen by disproportionate stratified random sampling. Subjects completed two scales generalized self-efficacy scale (Schwarzer et al, 1995) and bi-dimensional mathematics anxiety scale (Bai, 2010). Data were analyzed and processed using T test, and analysis of variance (ANOVA) by SPSS18.

Results: Our results indicate that the mean scores of self efficacy in student with mathematical anxiety in comparison with normal student significantly lower (P<0/05). One way ANOVA showed that there was no significant difference between mathematic anxiety and birth order in participants (P>0/05).

Conclusion: students with low self-efficacy may evaluate situations associated with the mathematical threatening and beyond their ability, as respects math in students' future educational and career is very important so, Study about mediators and Predictors variables of math anxiety such as self-efficacy could be lead to a more understanding of this disorder.

Key words: birth order, mathematics anxiety, self efficacy, students