

YAGISSP

Young Adults in Germany, Italy, Sweden, Spain and Portugal

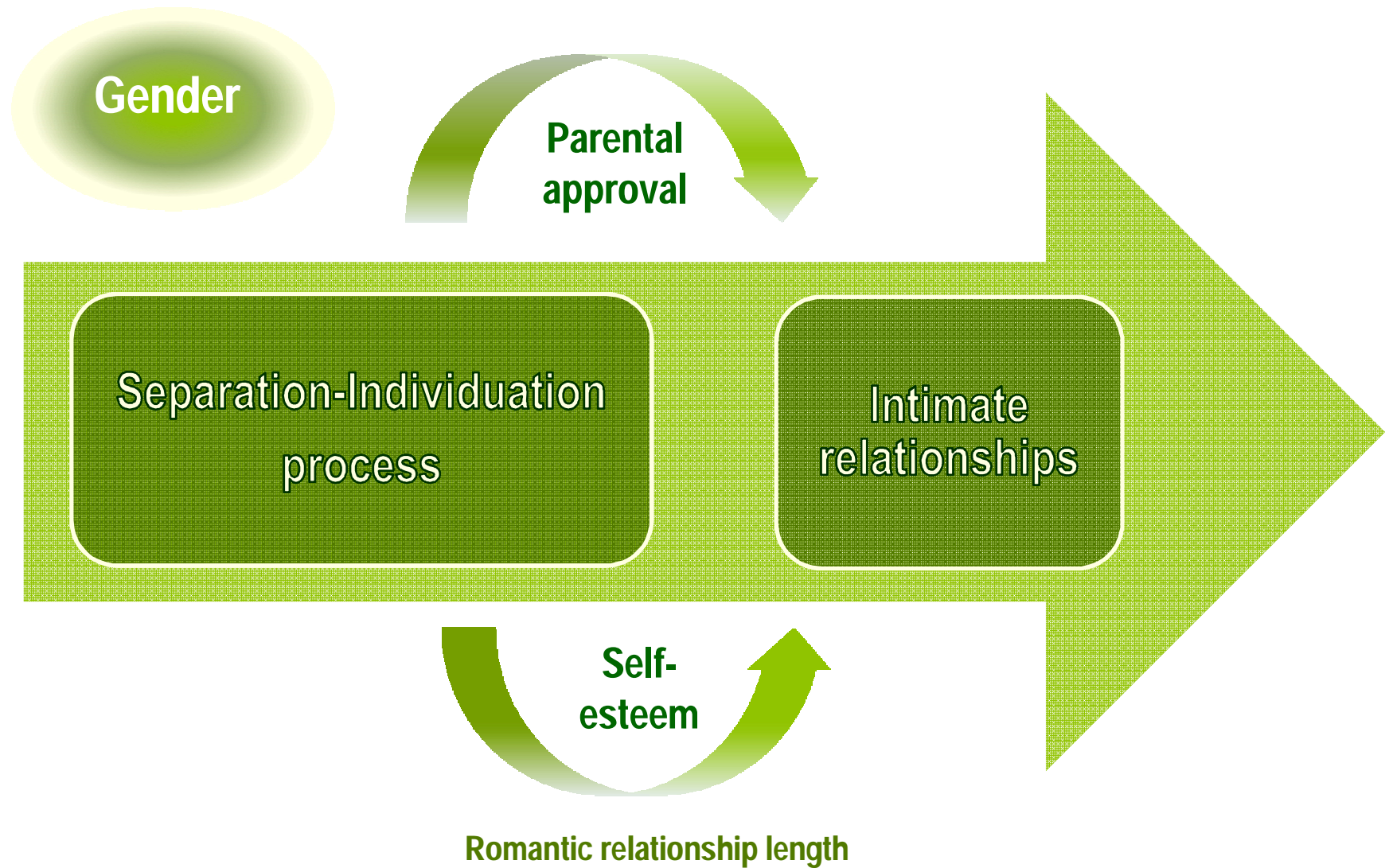
Life Design of Young Adults ages 20 to 30 in Munich, Milan,
Gothenburg, Stockholm, Barcelona and Porto between
Vocational Training, Job and Family



Individuation process and romantic relationships in emerging adults: The role of gender, parental approval and self-esteem

Raquel Barbosa, Joana Vieira & Paula Mena Matos



Theoretical background



Research questions

- Does individuation toward parents predict the quality of romantic relationship of emerging adults?
- Are insecure attached/individuated emerging adults more dependent on parents approval of their romantic partner?
- Does parental approval mediate the association between attachment/individuation and dimensions of romantic relationships?
- Is self-esteem a moderating variable in the association between insecure attachment/individuation and dimensions of romantic relationship?
- Are parental and emerging adult's gender moderating variables in the above mentioned associations?

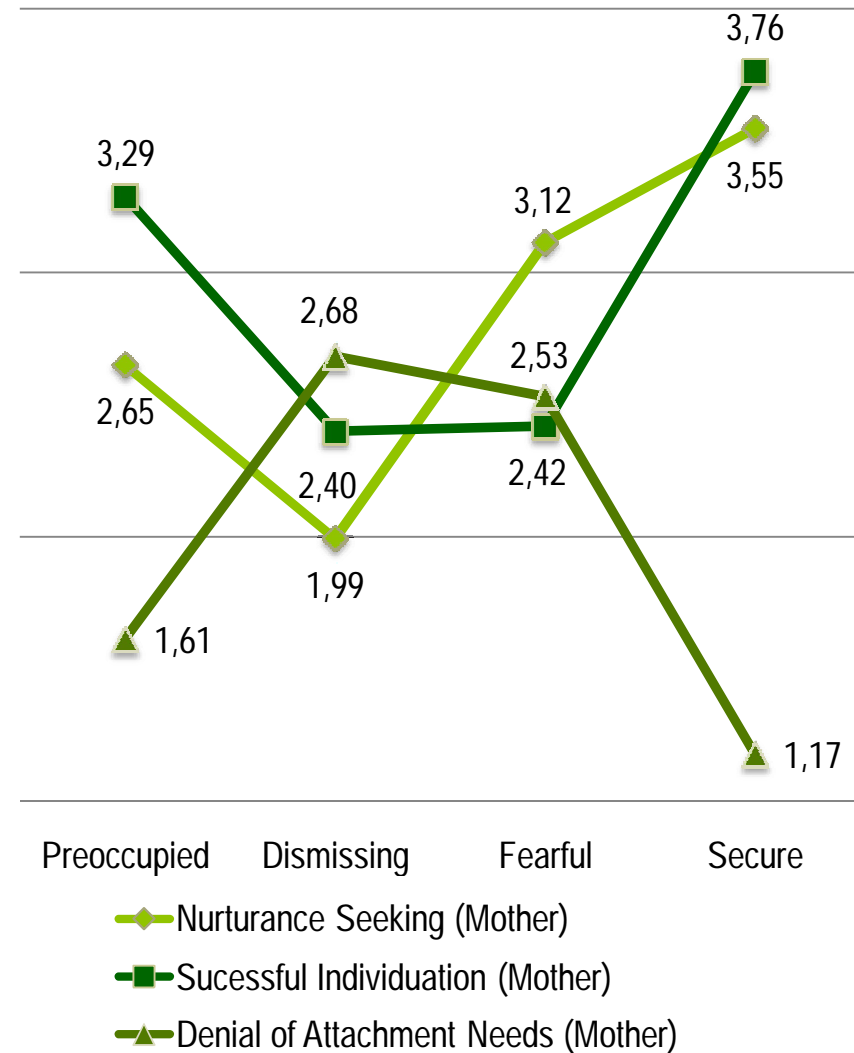
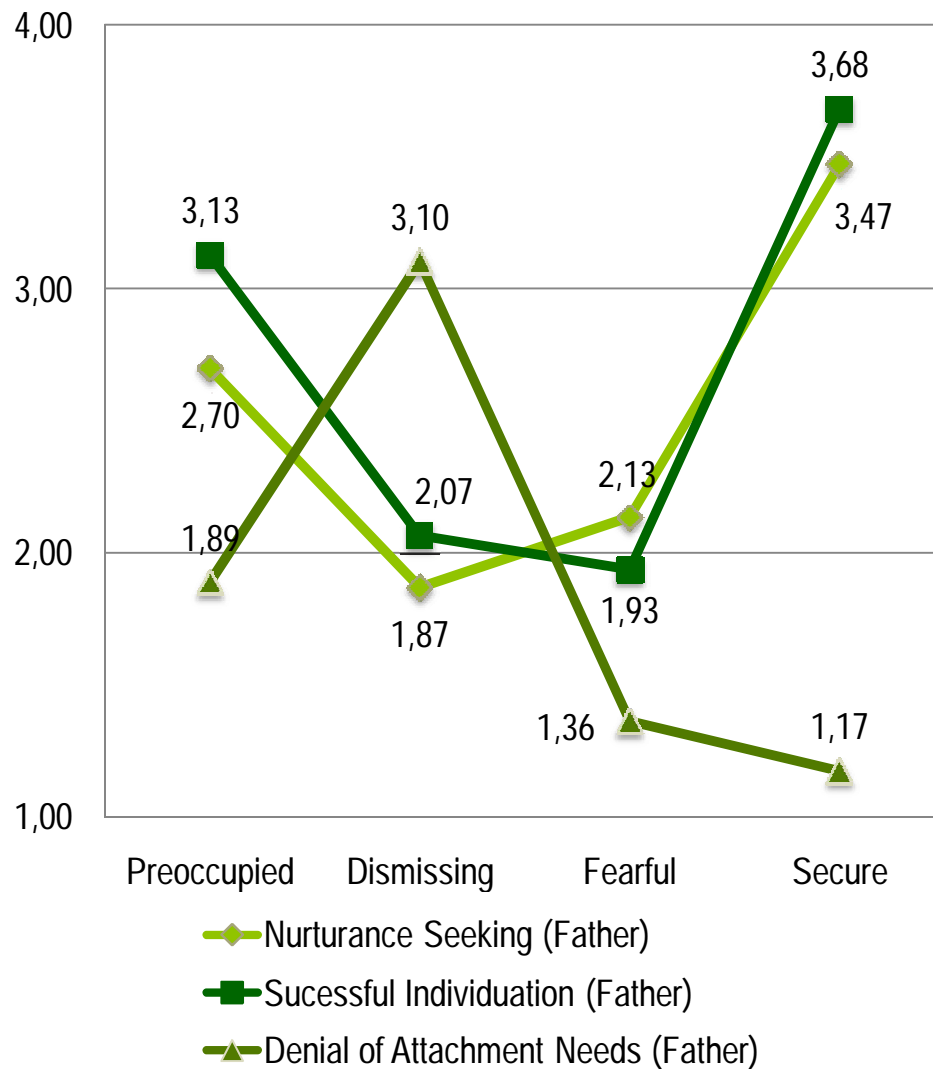
Participants

- **613 participants:**
 - **Gender:**
 -  240 (39.2%)
 -  373 (60.8%)
 - **Age:** 17-30 years old ($M = 21.1$ e $SD = 2.2$).
 - **University students of Porto Metropolitan Area:** 479 (78.1%)
 - **Single** 587 (96.1%)
 - **Romantic relationship**
 - 338 (55.1%) Stable relationship
 - 253 (41.3%) Don't have a stable relationship
 - Length of relationship $M = 23.3$ $SD = 74.2$ (months)

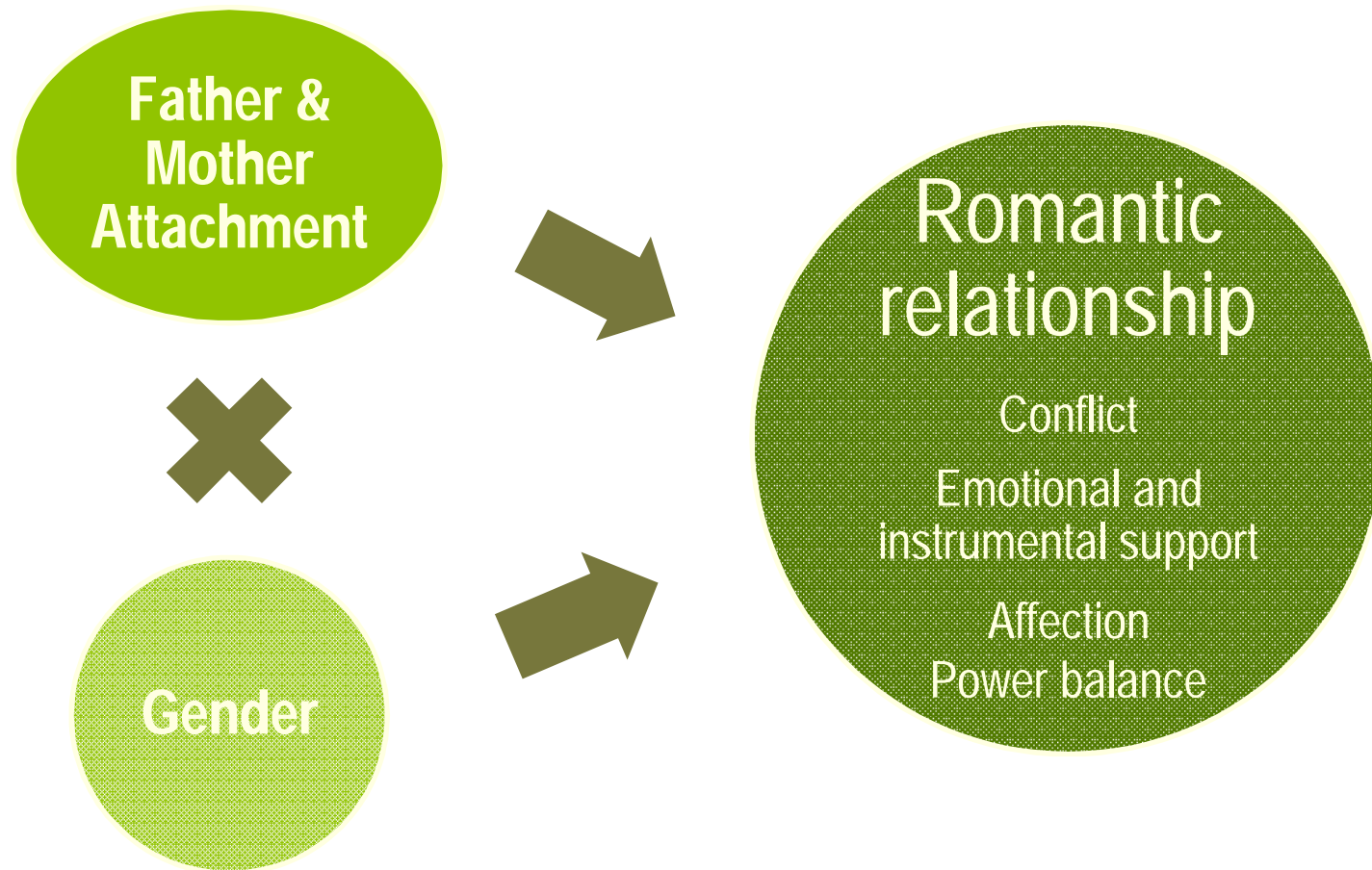
Measures / indicators

Scale	Source	Sample item	N ^a items	Alpha
Nurturance Seeking (Father and Mother)	MITA Münich Individuation Test of Adolescence (Walper, Schwarz & Jurasic, 1996)	<i>"When she is near me, I have the feeling that nothing bad can happen to me"</i>	3	0.69/ 0.60
Successful Individuation (Father and Mother)		<i>"Even if I don't like everything my mother does, I try to understand her"</i>	4	0.83/ 0.72
Denial of Attachment needs (Father and Mother)		<i>"I get along well without her affection"</i>	3	0.69/ 0.62
Affection	NRI Network of Relationship Inventory (Furman & Buhrmester, 1985)	<i>"You talk to him/her about your feelings and secrets"</i>	12	0.94
Conflict		<i>"You get into an argument"</i>	3	0.89
Emotional and Instrumental Support		<i>"helps you to solve tasks"</i>	7	0.76
Power balance		<i>"who normally assume the responsibility to decide what to do"</i>	3	0.87
Self-esteem	Rosenberg Self-esteem Scale (1965)	<i>"In general I'm satisfied with myself"</i>	7	0.83
Parental Approval	Influences of the family of origin and friends on romantic relationship (Guglhör-Rudan & Walper, 2005)	<i>"It's very important to me that my parents like my boyfriend/girlfriend"</i>	4	0.67

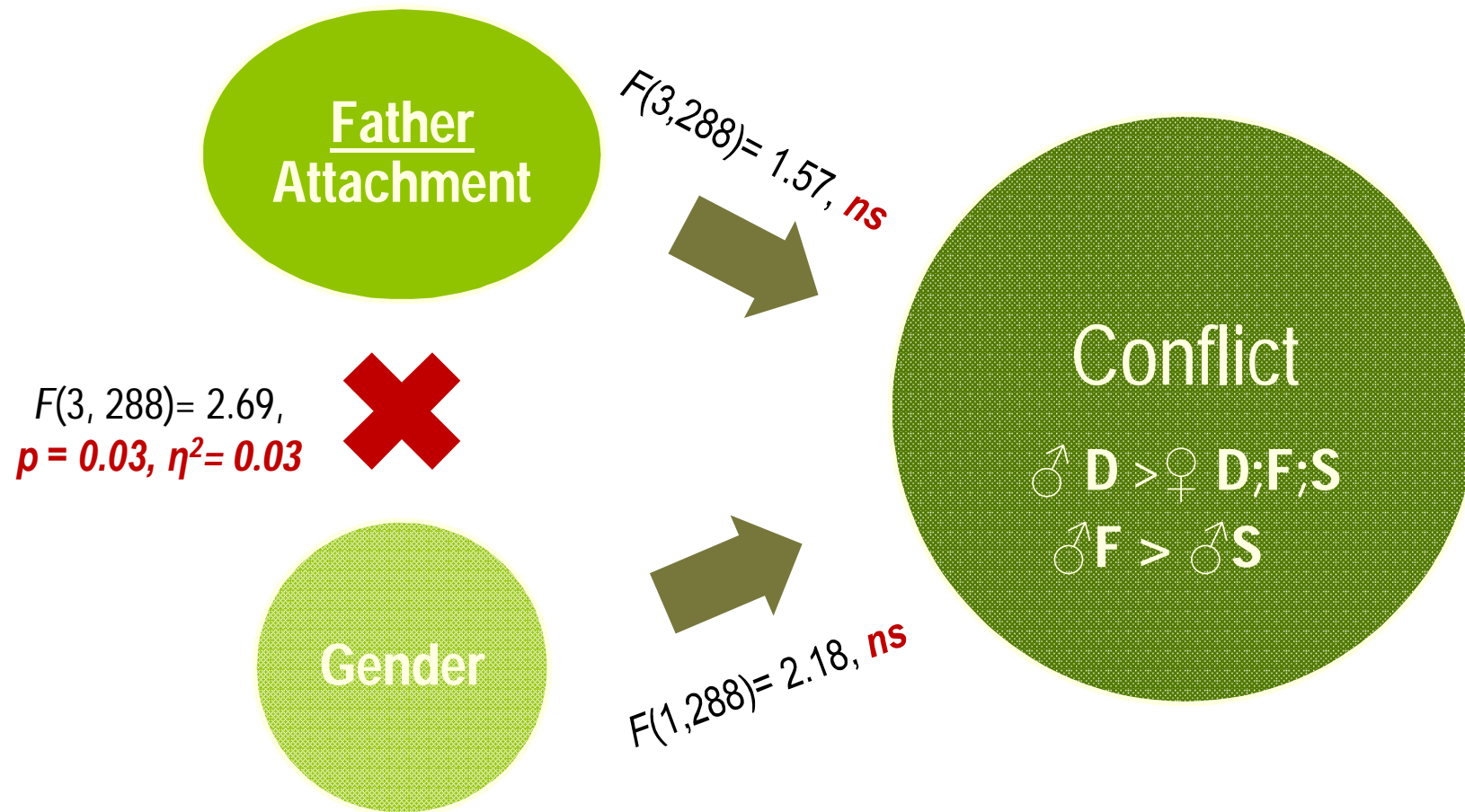
Mita dimensions means by clusters of Father and Mother



Main effects (Father & Mother)

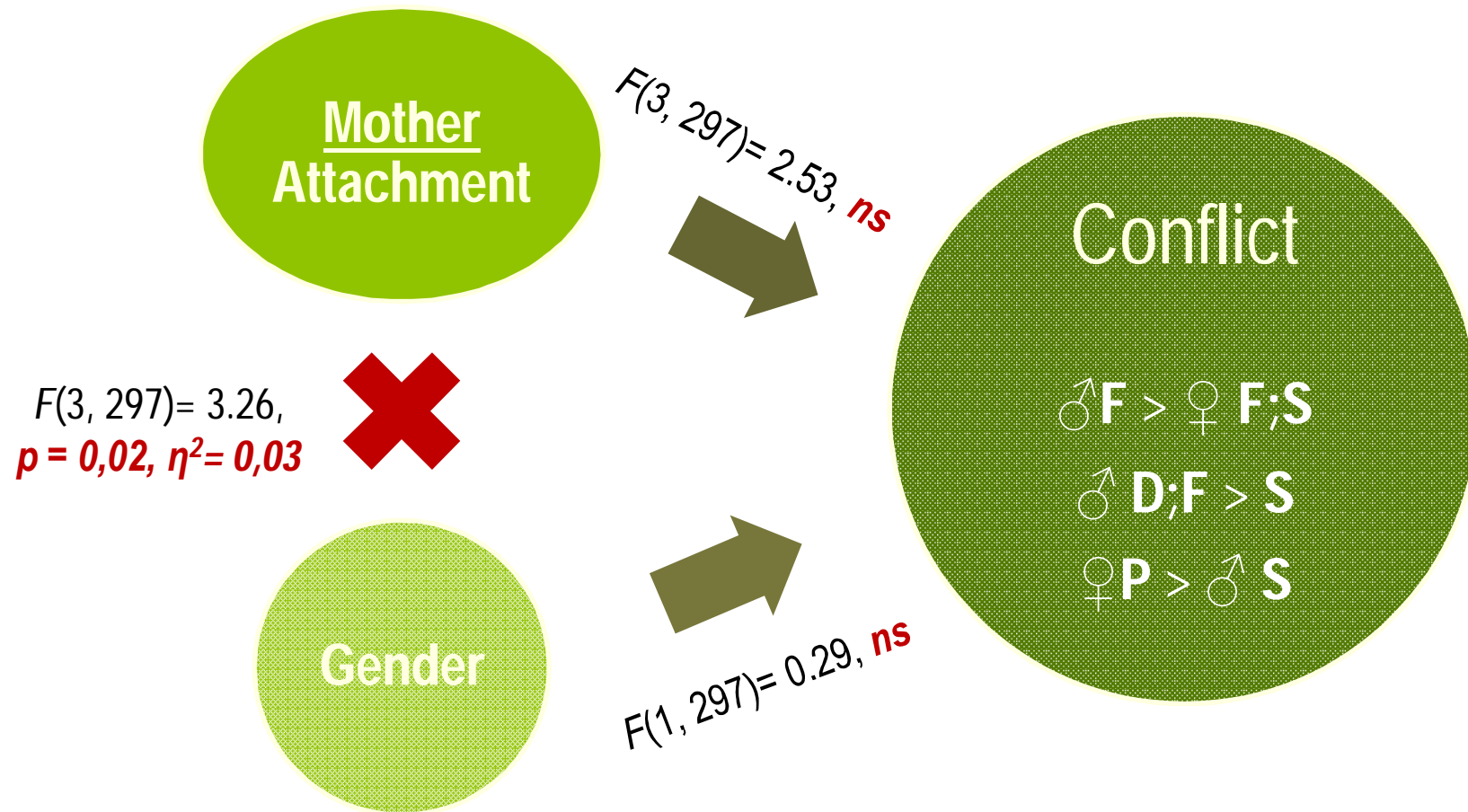


Main effects Father



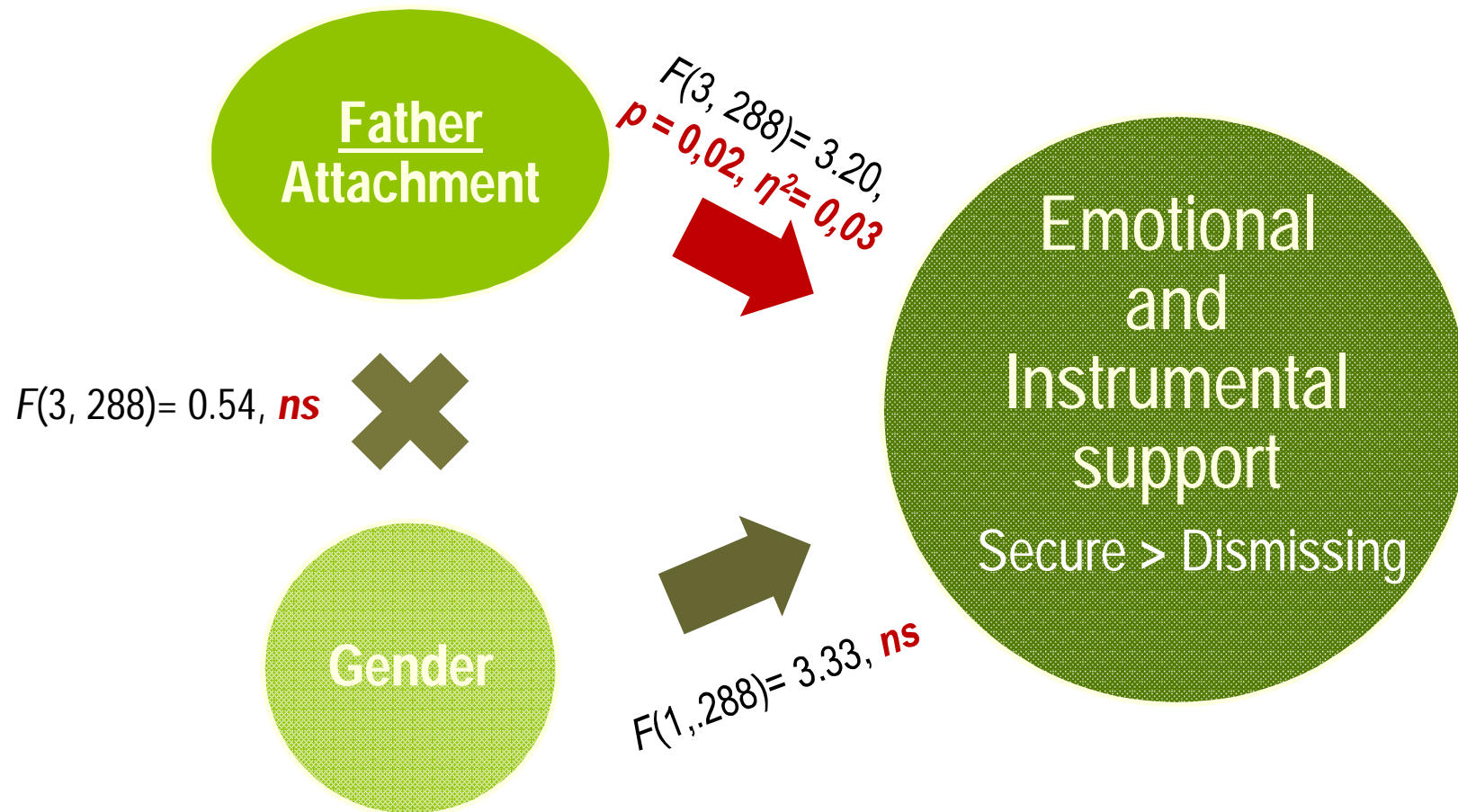
Romantic relationship length $F(1,288) = 6.27, p = 0.01$

Main effects Mother

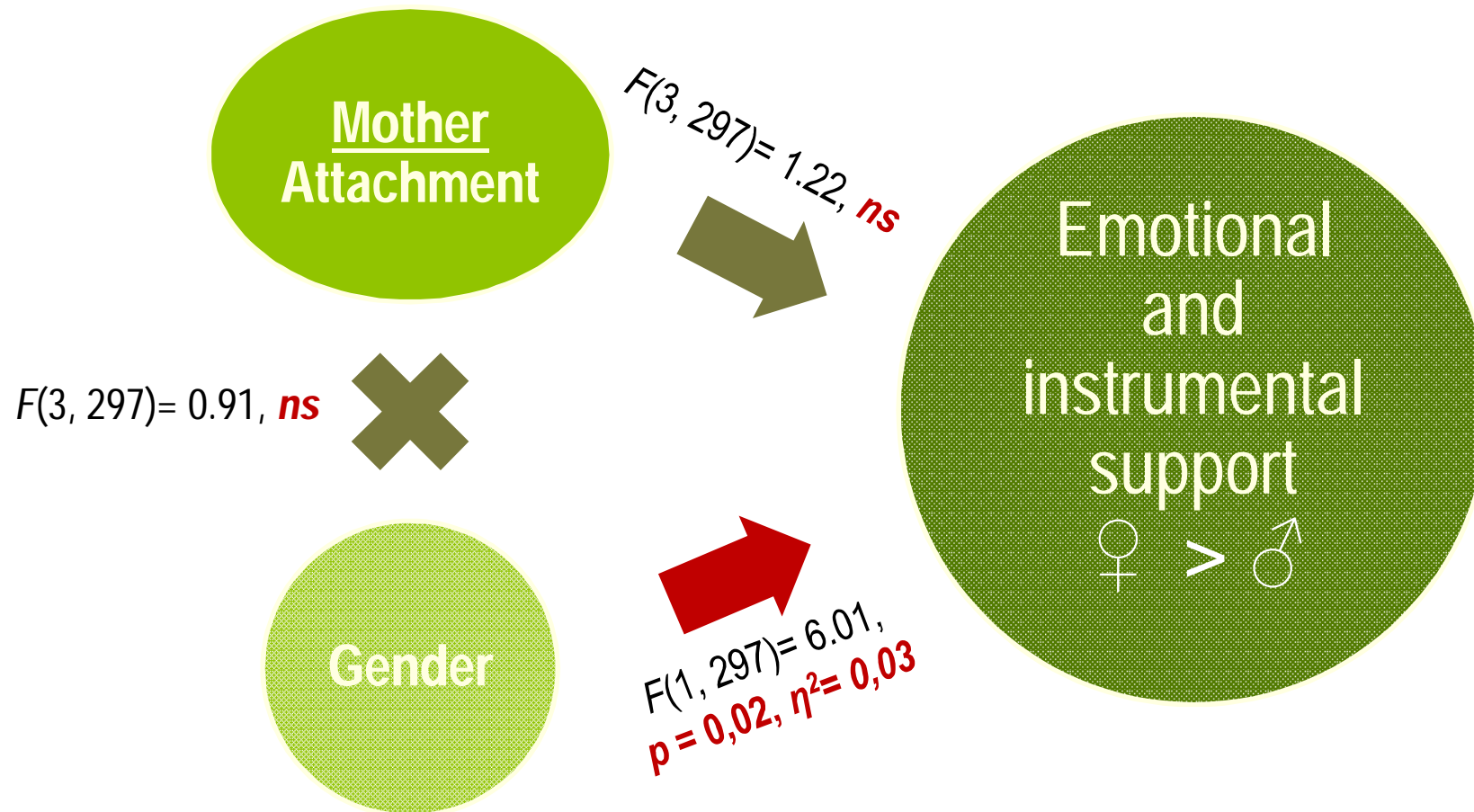


Romantic relationship length $F(1, 297) = 6.12, p = 0.01$

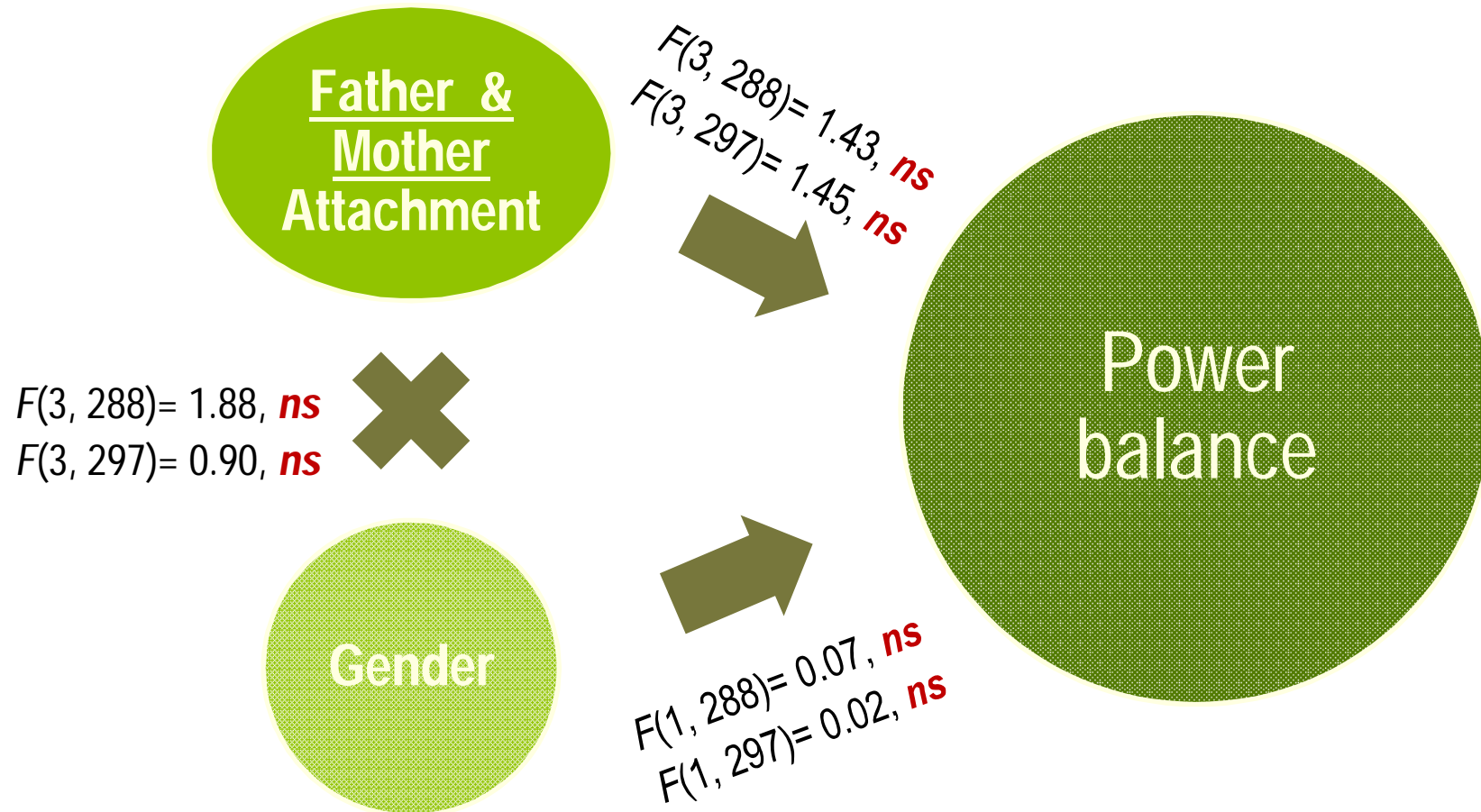
Main effects Father



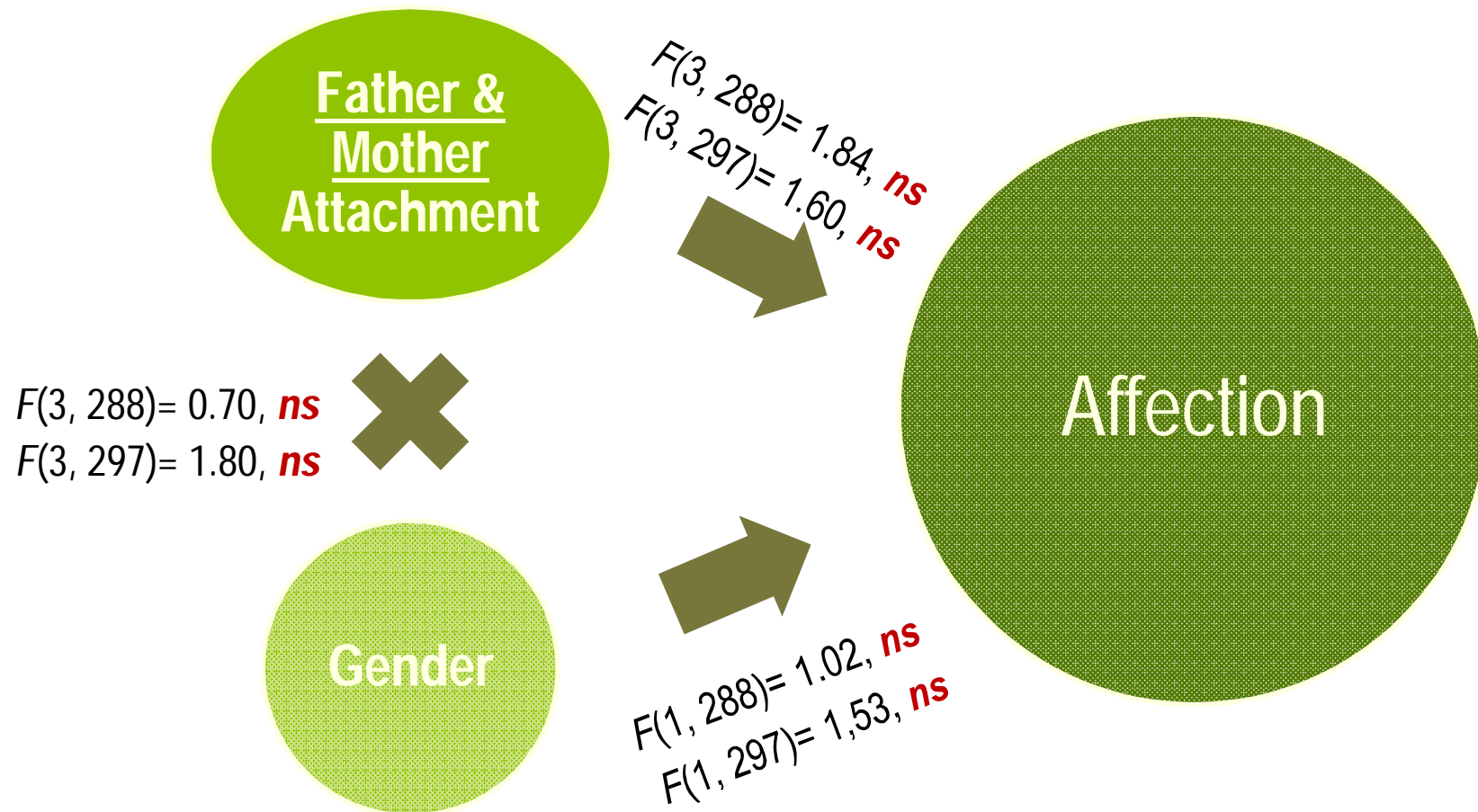
Main effects Mother



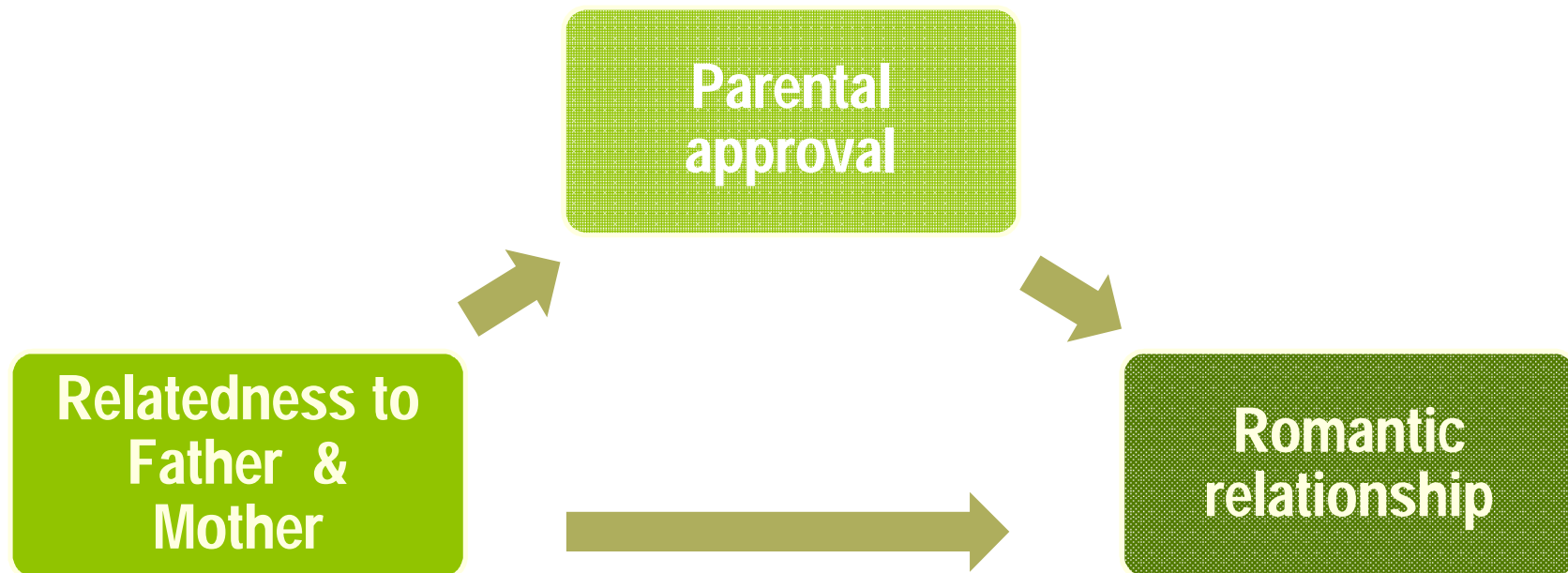
Main effects Father & Mother



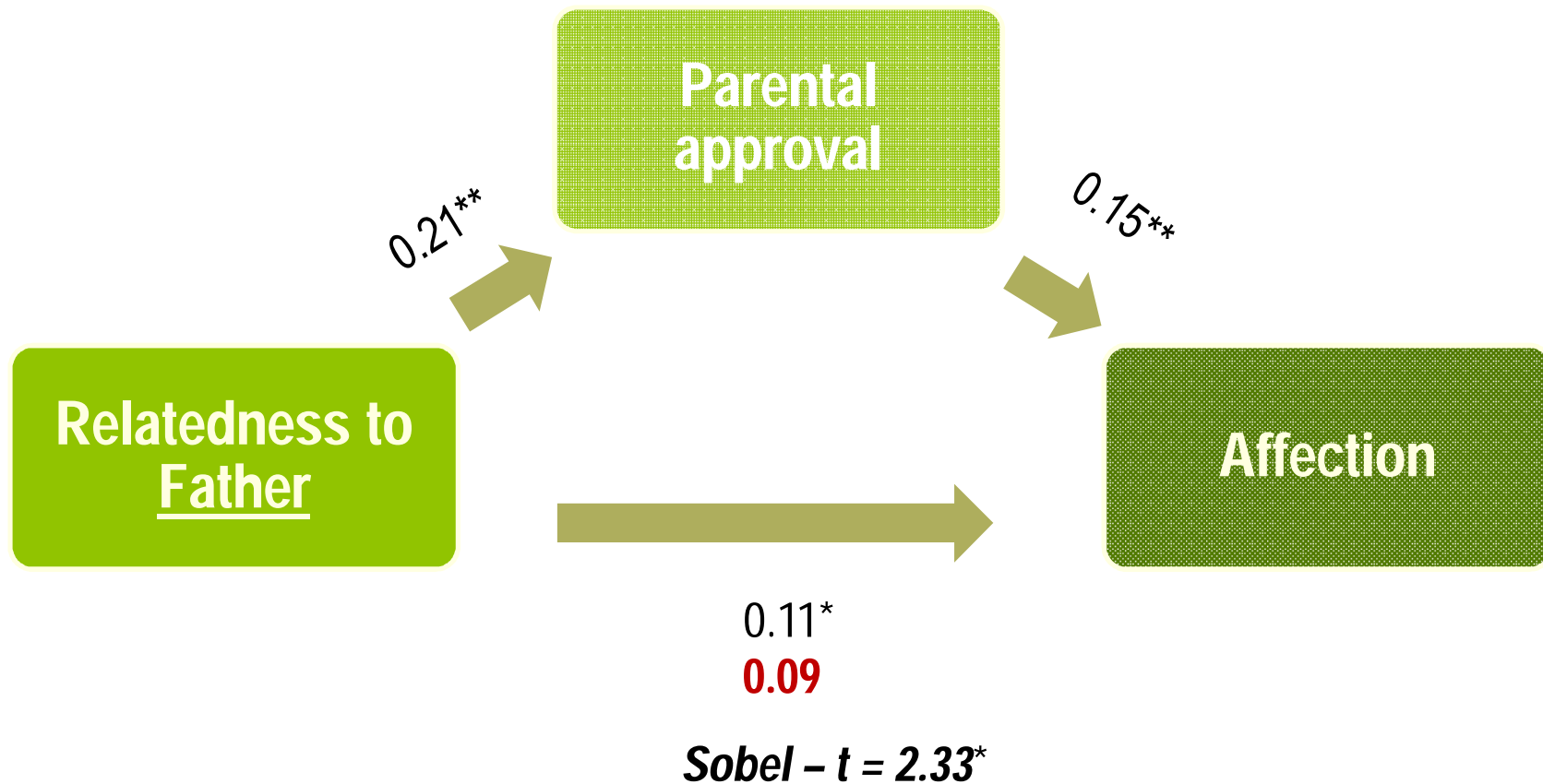
Main effects Father & Mother



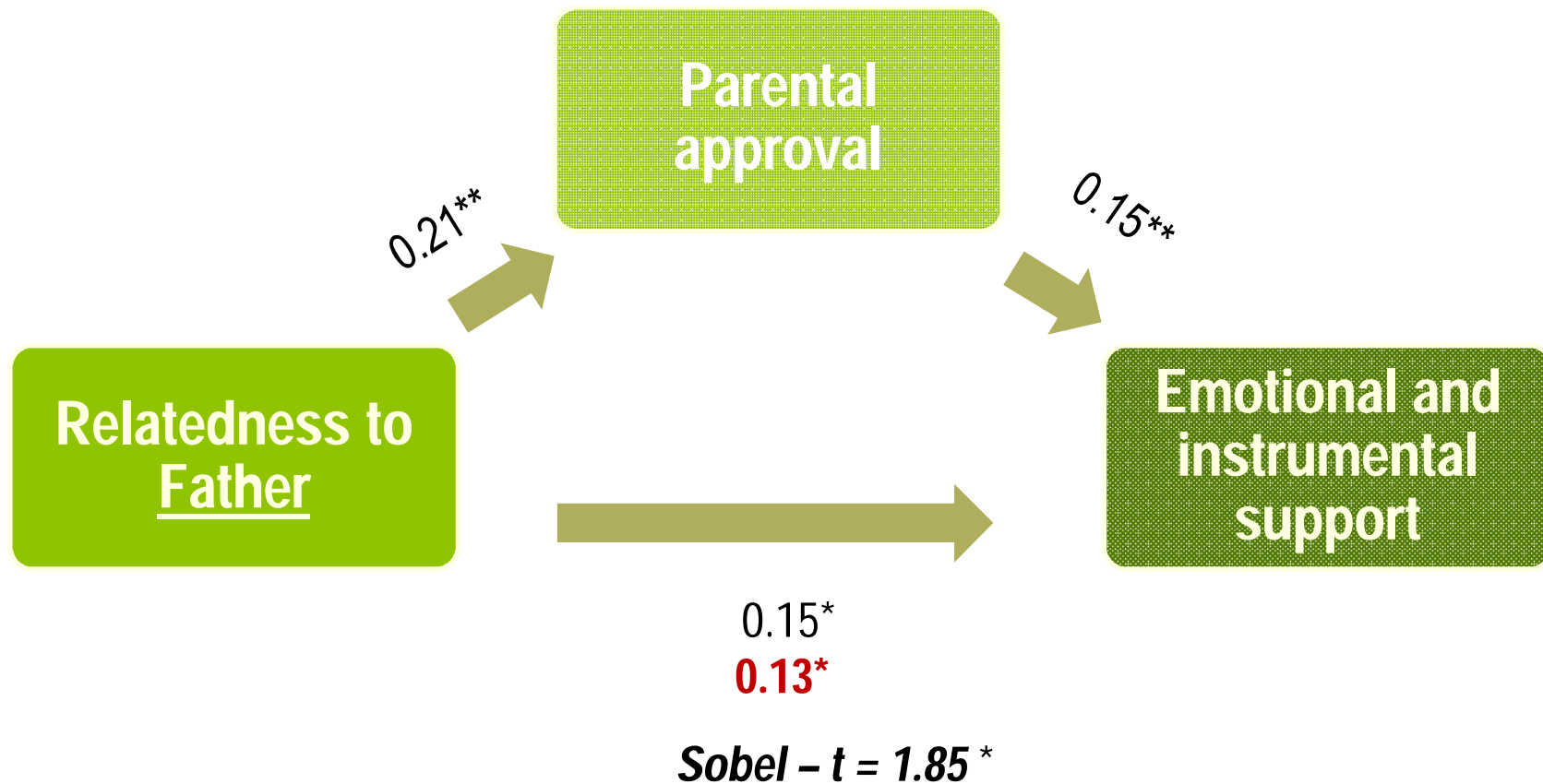
Mediation by Parental Approval?



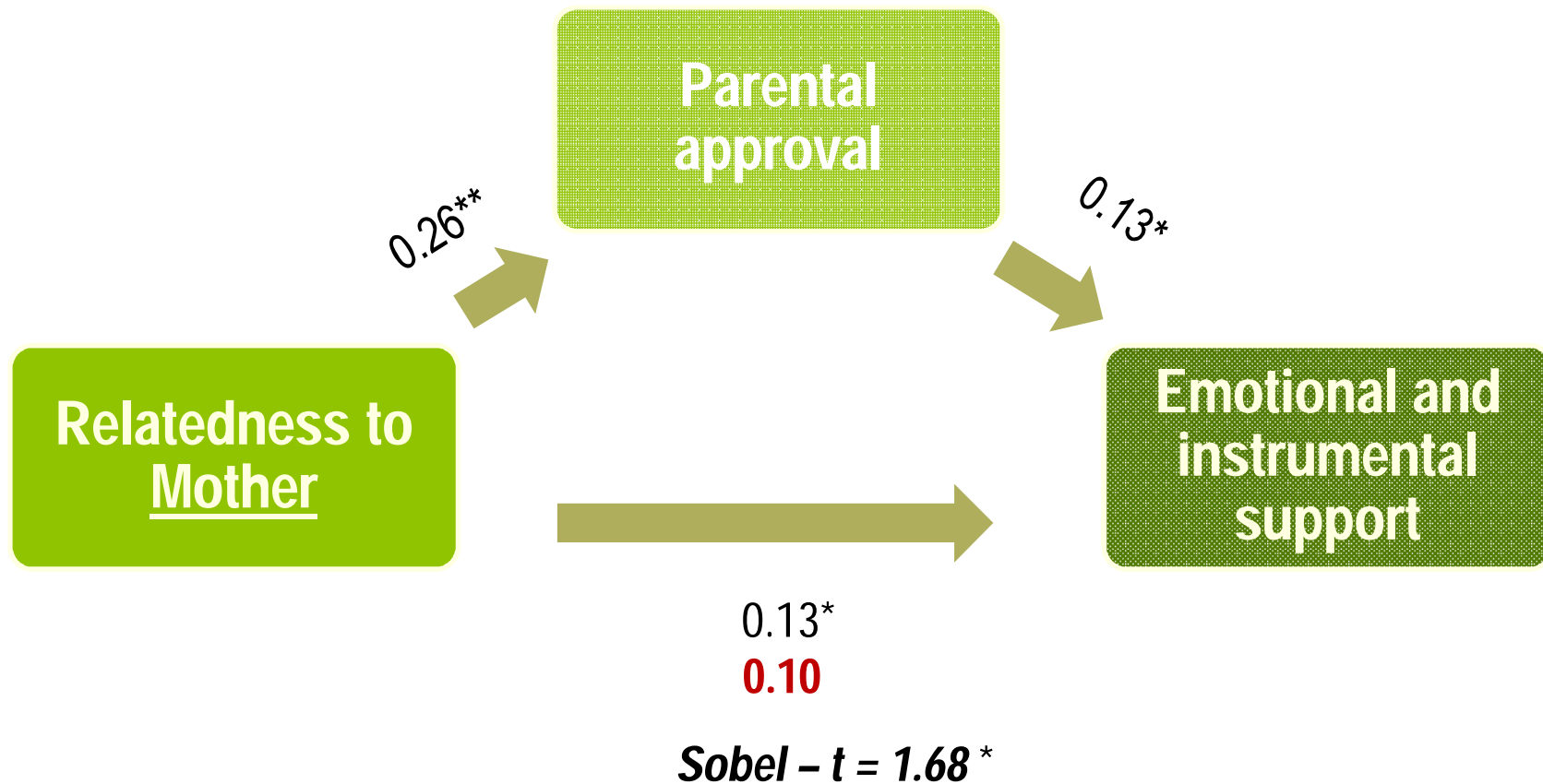
Mediation by Parental Approval?



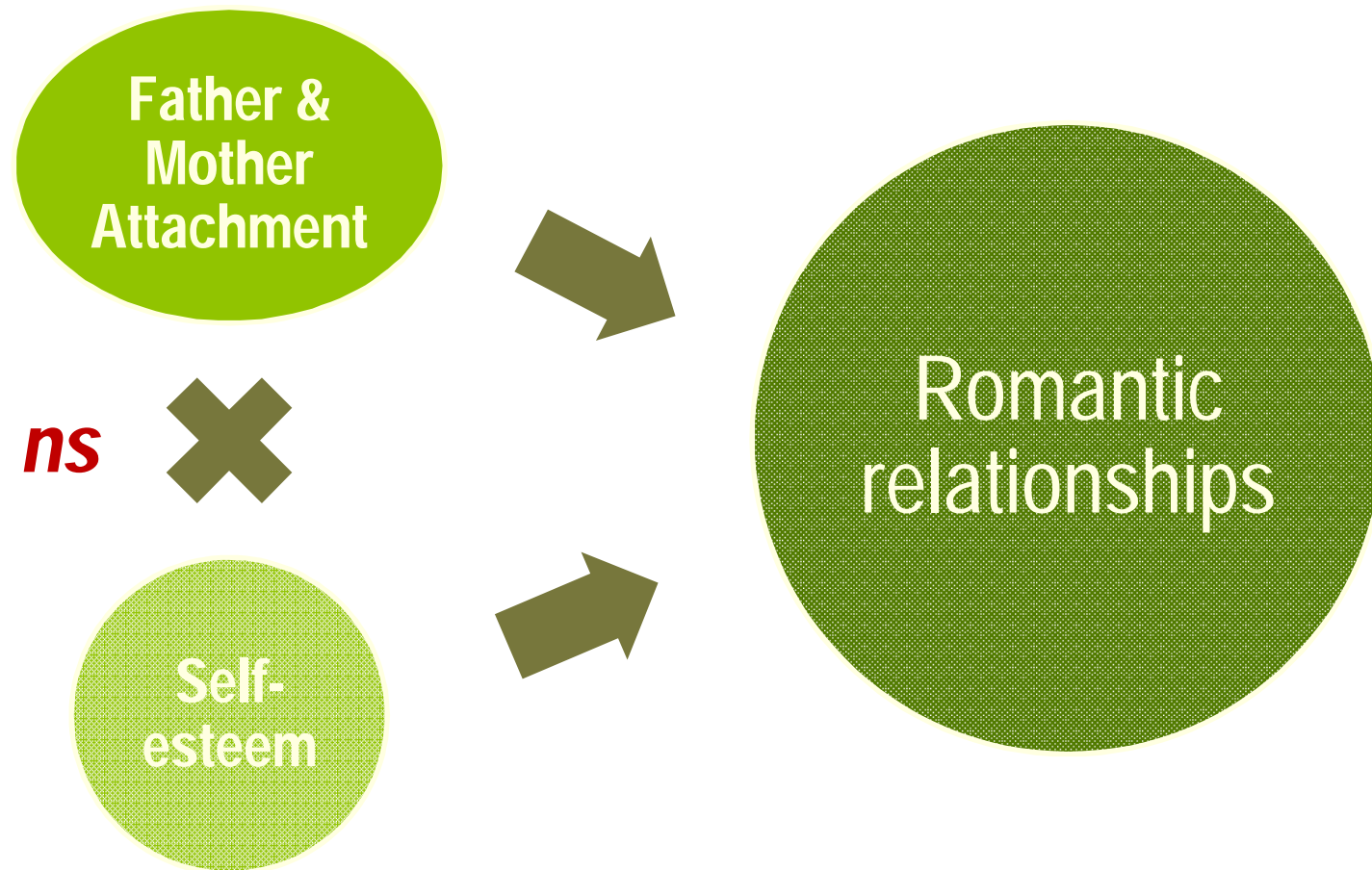
Mediation by Parental Approval?



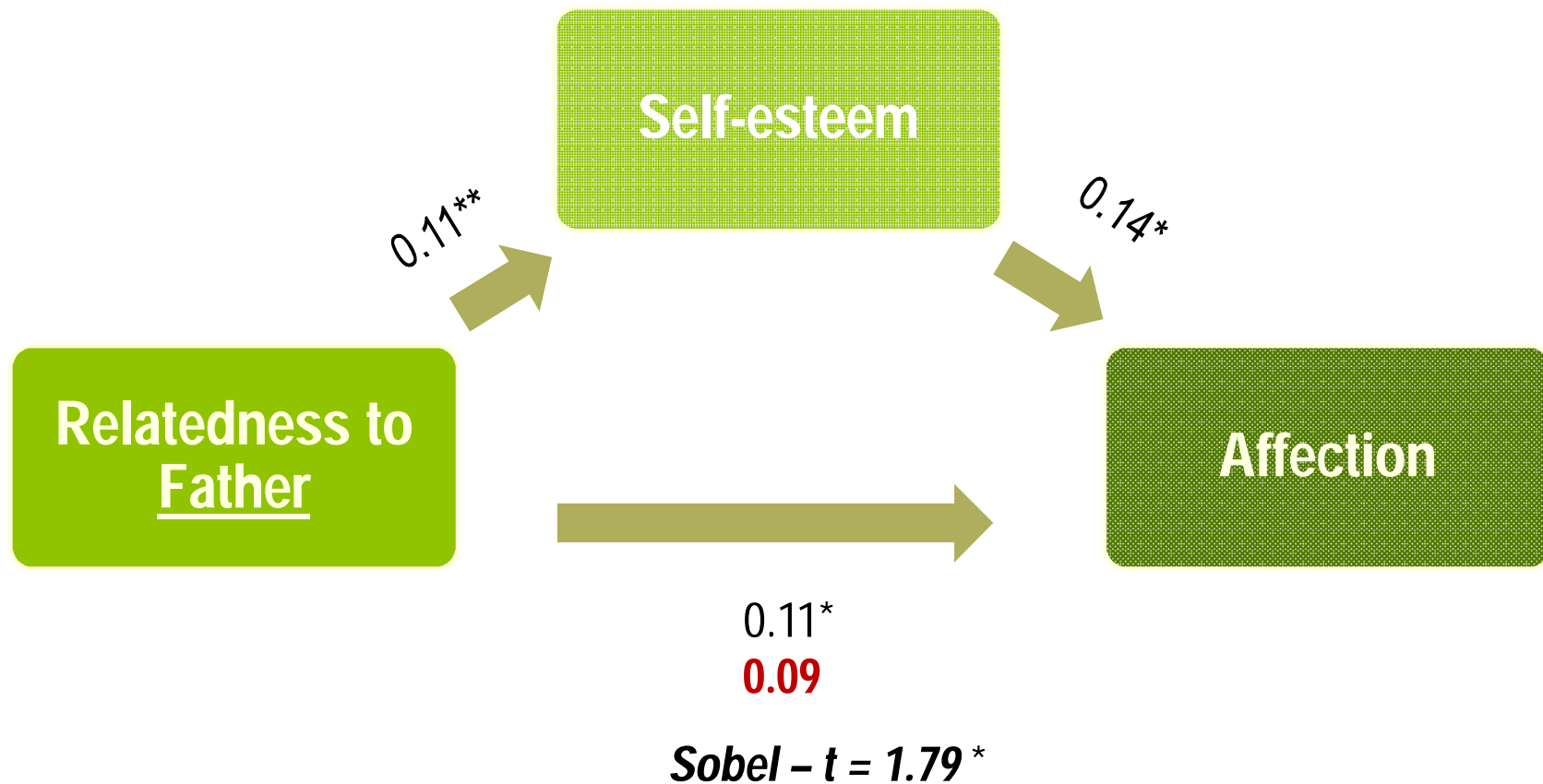
Mediation by Parental Approval?



Moderation (Self-esteem x Attachment)?



Mediation by Self-esteem?



Mediation by Self-esteem?



Limitations and future research...

- Representative and larger sample of emerging adults
- Relying merely on self-report data may lead to neglect of actual parents and romantic partners.
- Lower levels of explained variance
- Role of close friends and other moderating and mediating variables
- Longitudinal studies are desirable



Thank you for your attention!