

Projection of Low Self- Concept in Person Drawing Test Case

(Qualitative Research)

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June 2026

The Problem

- Can children's drawings be used as a diagnostic tool to detect internal conflicts and low self-concept?
- Psychometric tools are useful.
- But do they capture children's inner experience in their drawings?

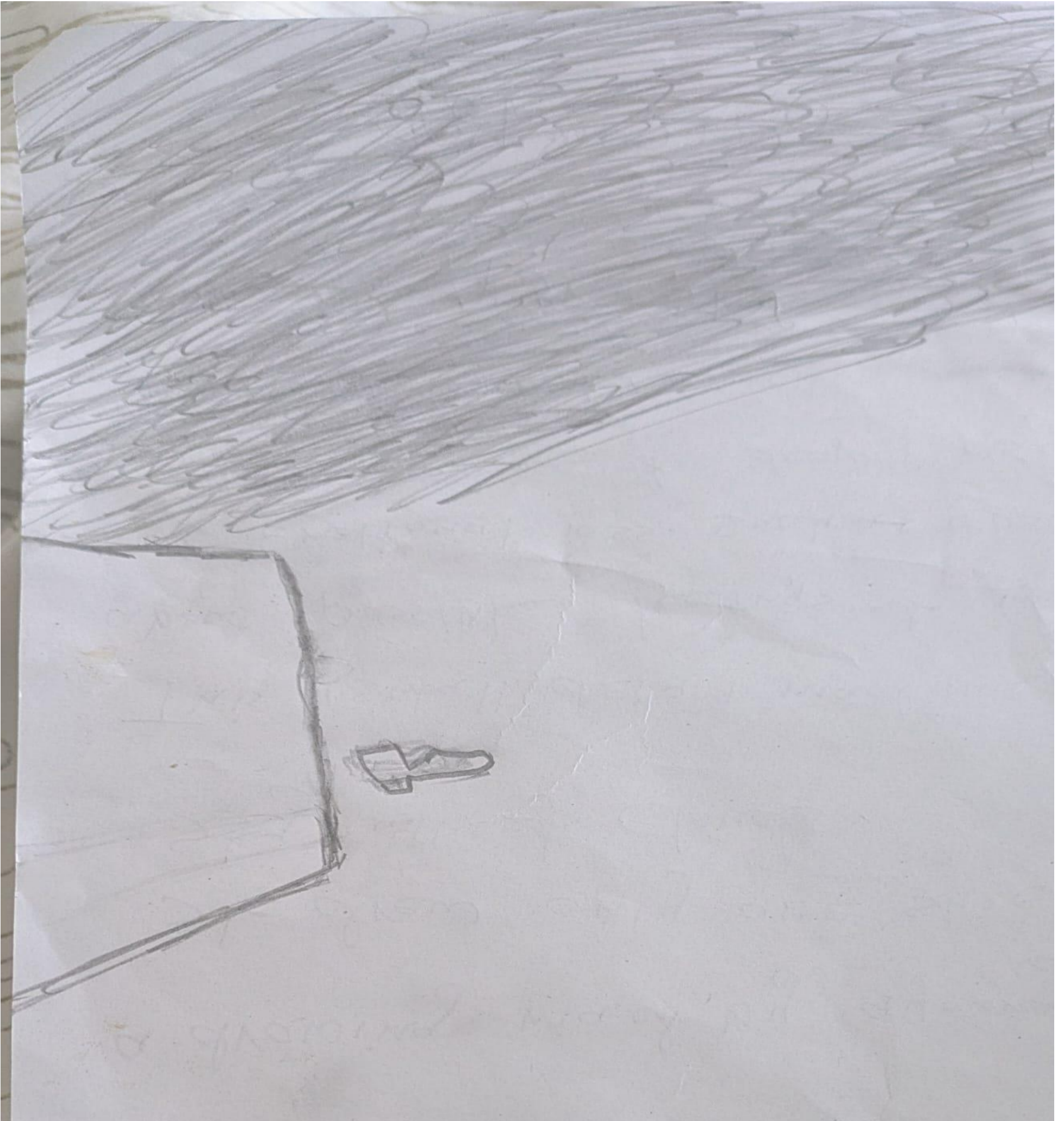
Research Focus/Hypothesis

- Lower self-concept is associated with more distorted drawings.
- Drawings reveal aspects not captured by scales.

Instruments and Method

- Self-concept scale (developed by the researcher) to identify cases.
- Selected the children with the lowest 6 scores.
- Draw-a-person test to explore experience.

Intro



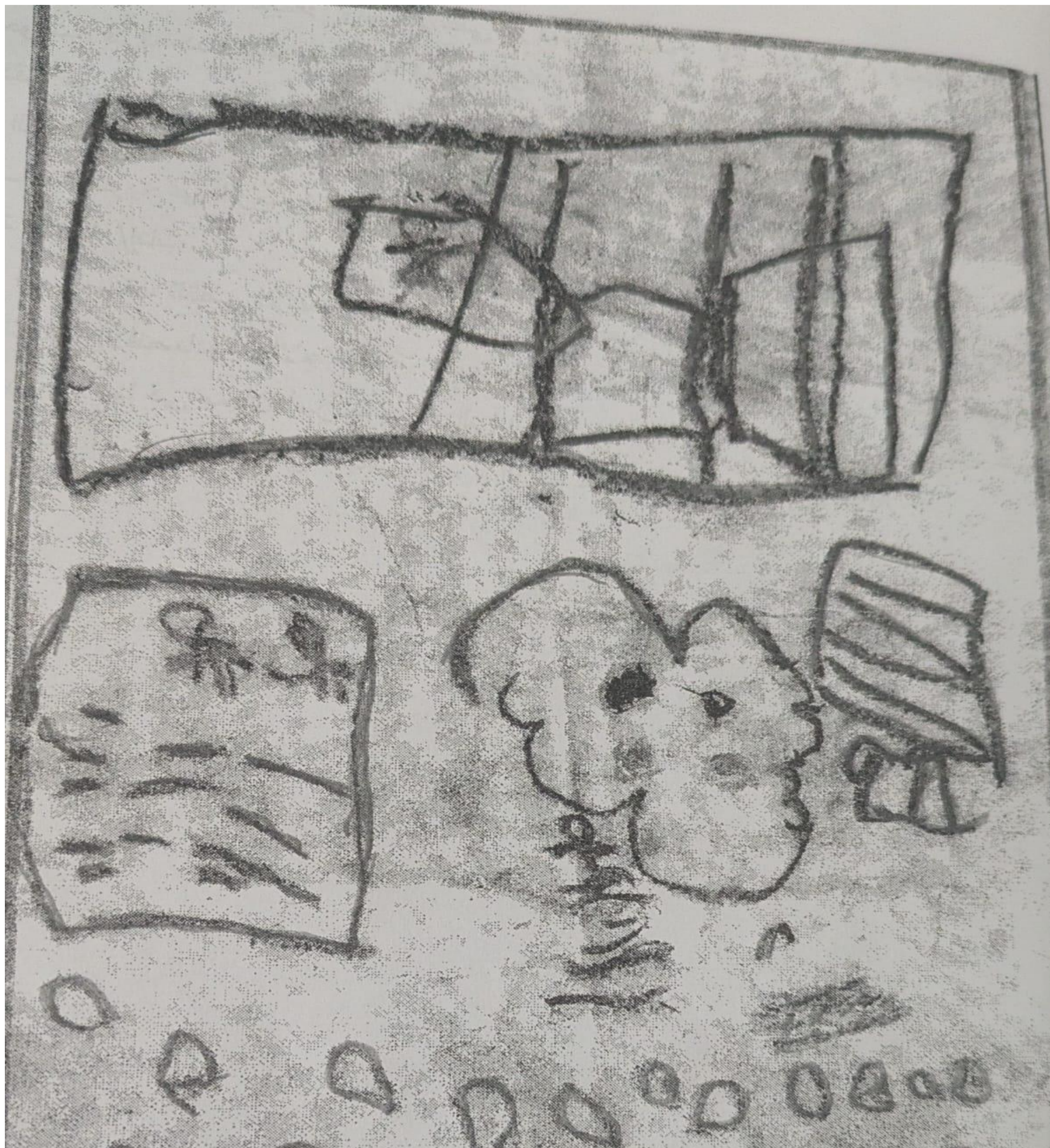
This drawing was the starting point of the study. The child represented herself through a single shoe under a cloudy sky, reflecting projection of low self-concept through symbolic expression.

Case 1 (Female)



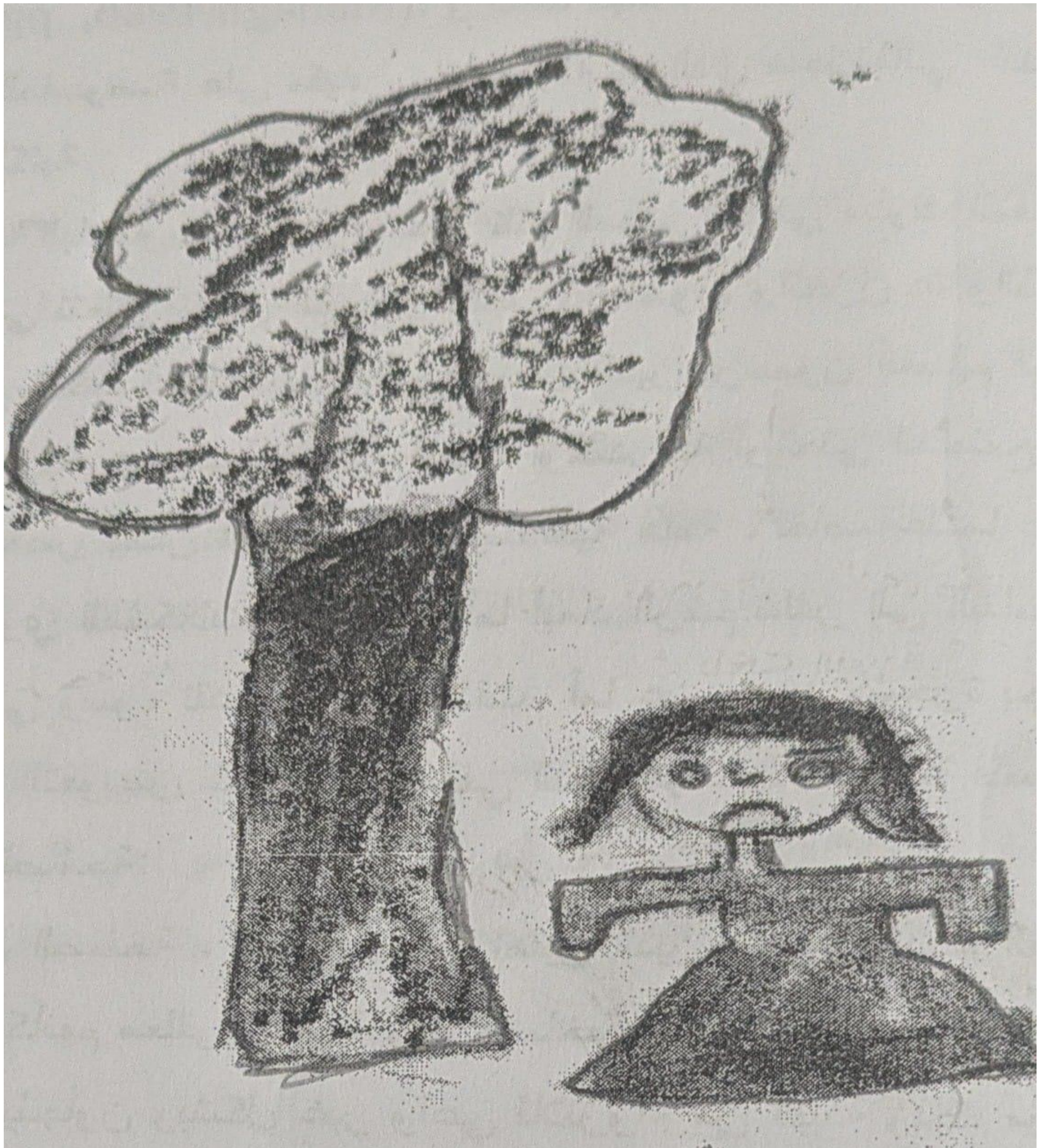
The child drew herself taller, to deal with feeling short, showing a gap in her self-image.

Case 2 (Female)



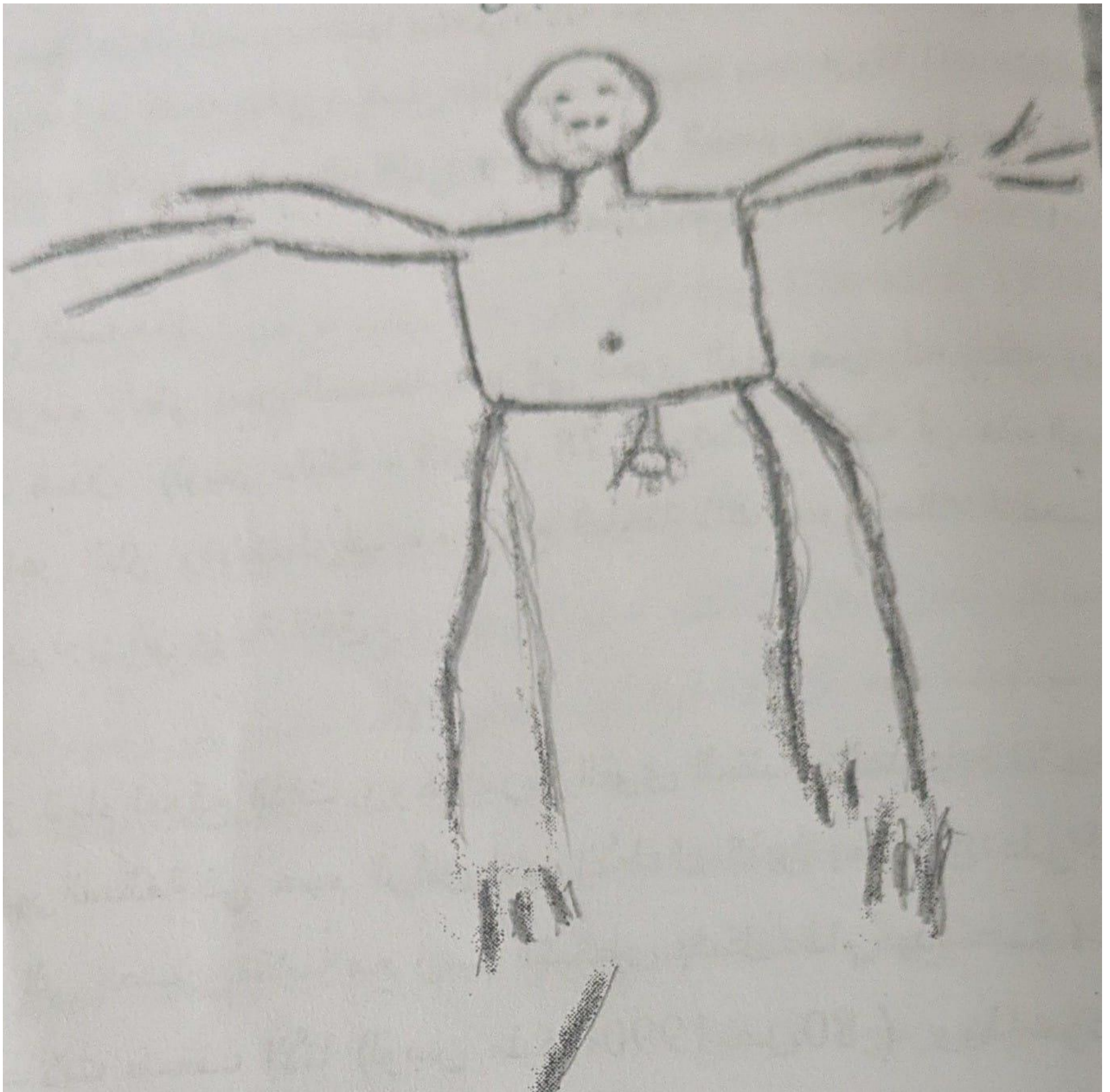
The child represented herself behind bars, separated from others, indicating isolation and lack of emotional security.

Case 3 (Female)



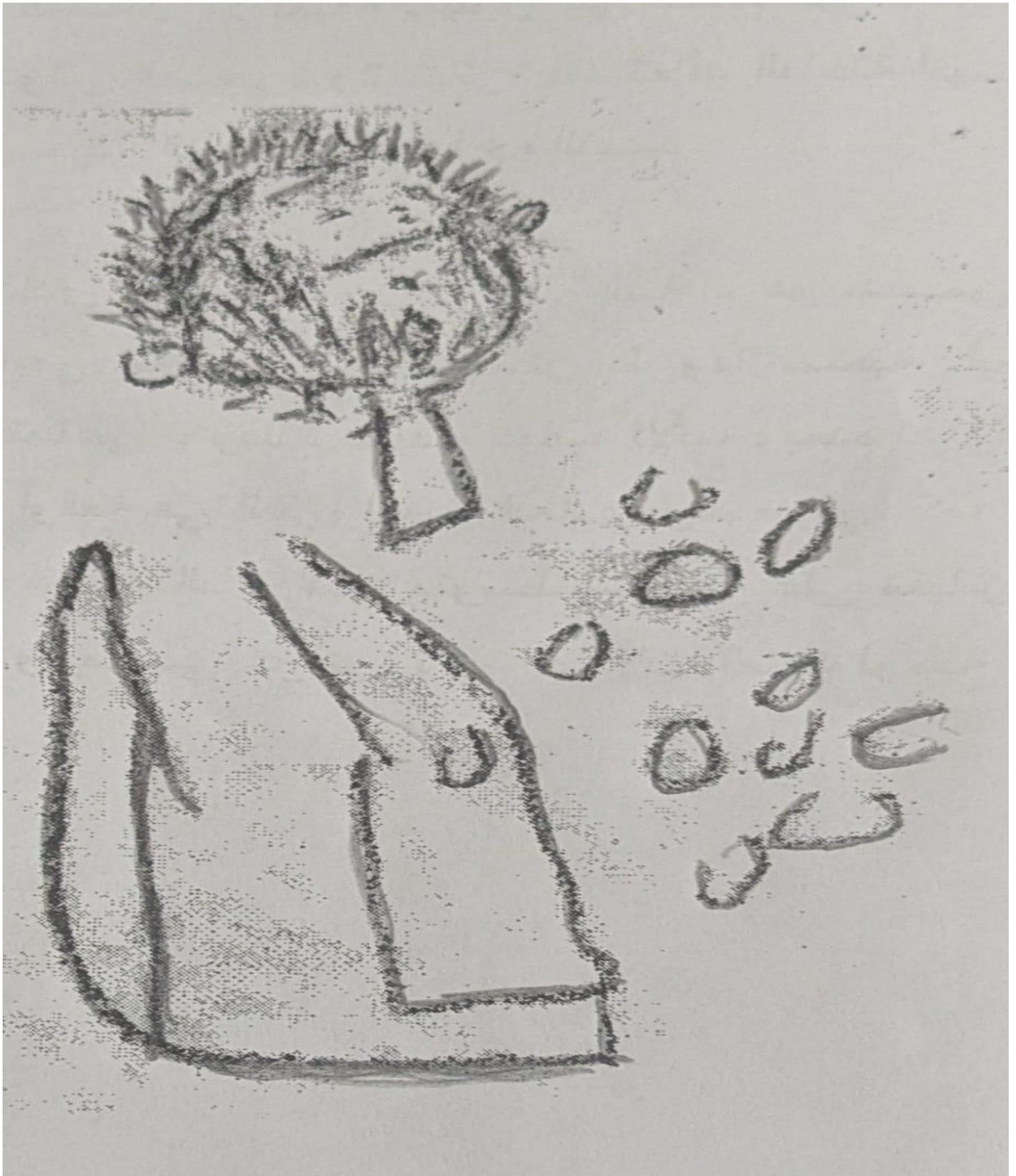
The child used dark colours and depicted herself with a sad face and no hands or feet. The child appears helpless, expressing weakness and insecurity.

Case 4 (Male)



The child depicted himself naked, with an emphasis on the male genitalia. This shows he is not comfortable with himself, and he has low self-concept according to the scale. While the hands and feet drawn like claws suggest a need for self-defence.

Case 5 (Male)



The large, distorted head and the fragmented body show confusion and inner tension.

Case 6 (Male)



Distorted facial expression and sad features reflect emotional distress and a negative psychological state.

Key Insight

What did this reveal?

- Drawings give meaning to numbers.
- Early detection of emotional distress and low self-concept.
- A deeper understanding of children's inner worlds.
- This enhances understanding, not just measurement.

Results (Core Finding)

What did the findings show?

- A clear association between low self-concept and distorted drawings.
- Distortion reflects emotional distress.
- Consistent patterns across cases.
- These findings suggest that drawings support the identification of low self-concept and emotional difficulties.
- These findings can also inform future interventions and clinical practice.

Reflection

What did I learn?

- The scale showed there was a problem.
- The drawings showed what the problem felt like.
- Without drawings, the story would be incomplete.

Significance

- Children's drawings are not merely creative expression.
- But can reveal deeper internal conflicts.

Final Answer

So, going back to my initial question...Can children's drawings be used as a diagnostic tool?

- Yes, these findings suggest that children's drawings can be used as a valuable diagnostic and predictive support tool, helping to identify low self-concept and detect emotional distress, particularly when used alongside psychometric measures.
- Behind every score, there is a story.