

The Relations among Social Support, Self-Esteem, and Life Satisfaction in New Taiwanese Children

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ABSTRACT

The first purpose of this study was to explore social support, self-esteem and life satisfaction in new Taiwanese children. The second purpose of this study was to compare the differences among different gender, grade, mother's nationality of new Taiwanese children's social support, self-esteem and life satisfaction. The third purpose of this study was to examine the relationships among social support, self-esteem and life satisfaction in new Taiwanese children. The fourth purpose of this study was to examine how the social support in new Taiwanese children predicted self-esteem and life satisfaction. Four hundred eight new Taiwanese third, fourth, fifth, and sixth grade children from twenty-two elementary schools in Taipei, Taoyuan, Taichung, Nantou, Changhua, Kao-hsiung, and Pingtung county participated in the study. The instruments for this study were Child and Adolescent Social Support Scale, The Rosenberg Self-Esteem Inventories and Multidimensional Student's Life Satisfaction Scale. The descriptive statistic, t-test, one-way ANOVA, Pearson correlations, multiple regression and hierarchical regression were conducted to test each research question. The results clearly showed that : 1.The social support, self-esteem, and life satisfaction of new Taiwanese children showed higher scores. 2.Girls of new Taiwanese children showed higher scores on peer support, family satisfaction, and school satisfaction. Different grades in new Taiwanese children showed significant differences on family satisfaction, self satisfaction, and school satisfaction. Different mother's nationality in new Taiwanese children showed significant differences on school support, teacher support, peer support, and parent support. 3.Social support, self-esteem, and life satisfaction in new Taiwanese children were associated. 4.Teacher support, peer support, and parent support could be used to predict self-respect in new Taiwanese children. Peer support could be used to predict self-respect and self-worth in new Taiwanese children. 5.Self-respect and self-worth could be used to predict family satisfaction, self satisfaction, and school satisfaction in new Taiwanese children. 6.Social support showed direct effects on life satisfaction and indirect effects on life satisfaction through self-esteem. In other words, self-esteem was the mediator between social support and life satisfaction. Key Words : social support, self-esteem, life satisfaction, new Taiwanese children

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