

Abstract

This survey study aims to examine the subjective well-being (SWB) of Macao youth and investigate into its related family factors. In this study, family factors include adolescents' family background (parents' education level and profession), family structure (parents' marital status and adolescent's order of birth in the family), and family support. A sample of 785 students from F1 to F6 classes are chosen from three secondary schools in Macao—they are located respectively in the north, central and south districts of Macao. Subjects are asked to complete the Oxford Happiness Questionnaire(OHQ) and the Family Support Questionnaire. Data collected are then analysed by t-test, One-way ANOVA and Pearson's Product-moment Correlation analysis. The results of the study are as follows:

1. It is found that the subjective well-being of Macao adolescents is around mid range. There is no gender difference shown in the variance of SWB scores.. However, age is found to be a personal factor of adolescent SWB, as there is a tendency of dropping in score when adolescents get older.
2. It is found that parents' education level and profession are predictors of adolescent SWB and effects are particularly significant on the part of the father. Parents' marital status and adolescents' order of birth fails the tests and are not considered as among the family factors influencing adolescent SWB.
3. Family support is found to be correlated with adolescent SWB, and while sibling support has relatively low correlation, parental support is found to have moderate correlation. The influence of emotional support is particularly significant among the three types of family support, viz.,

emotional, informational and instrumental.

Concluding the discussions, educational implications are drawn from the results and suggestions to parents and teachers are offered.

Keywords: subjective well-being, family factor, family support, Macao youth