HOW NARCISSISTIC CHARACTERISTIC AND SELF-ESTEEM ARE CORRELATED TO SOCIAL ANXIETY OF CHILDREN?

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ABSTRACT
This study investigated how narcissism is related to interpersonal stresses and social anxiety with self-esteem of children in early adolescence. The participants were 268 male and female elementary school students in 5-6 grades, who were living Ulsan city, Korea. The Psychological tests used in this study included the following: Narcissistic Personality Inventory, Rosenberg’s Self-Esteem Scale, the Stress Scale for Children, and LaGreca’s Social Anxiety Scale. Results revealed that narcissistic trait was positively correlated with self-esteem, and shared approximately 36% variance. Narcissistic trait was negatively correlated to stresses with friends, and positively correlated to stresses with teachers. Among narcissism, authority and superiority were correlated to stresses with friends, and entitlement and self-admiration were correlated to stresses with teachers. Although social anxiety, like stresses with friends, was negatively correlated to narcissistic trait, narcissism could not account the variance of those variables as it was adjusted by self-esteem. It was not found anything pathologically special with children with high degree of narcissism and low self-esteem. It should be discussed roles of narcissism and self-esteem with previous studies.

Keyword: Narcissism, Self-esteem, Interpersonal Stress, Social Anxiety